



CQ

March 1961

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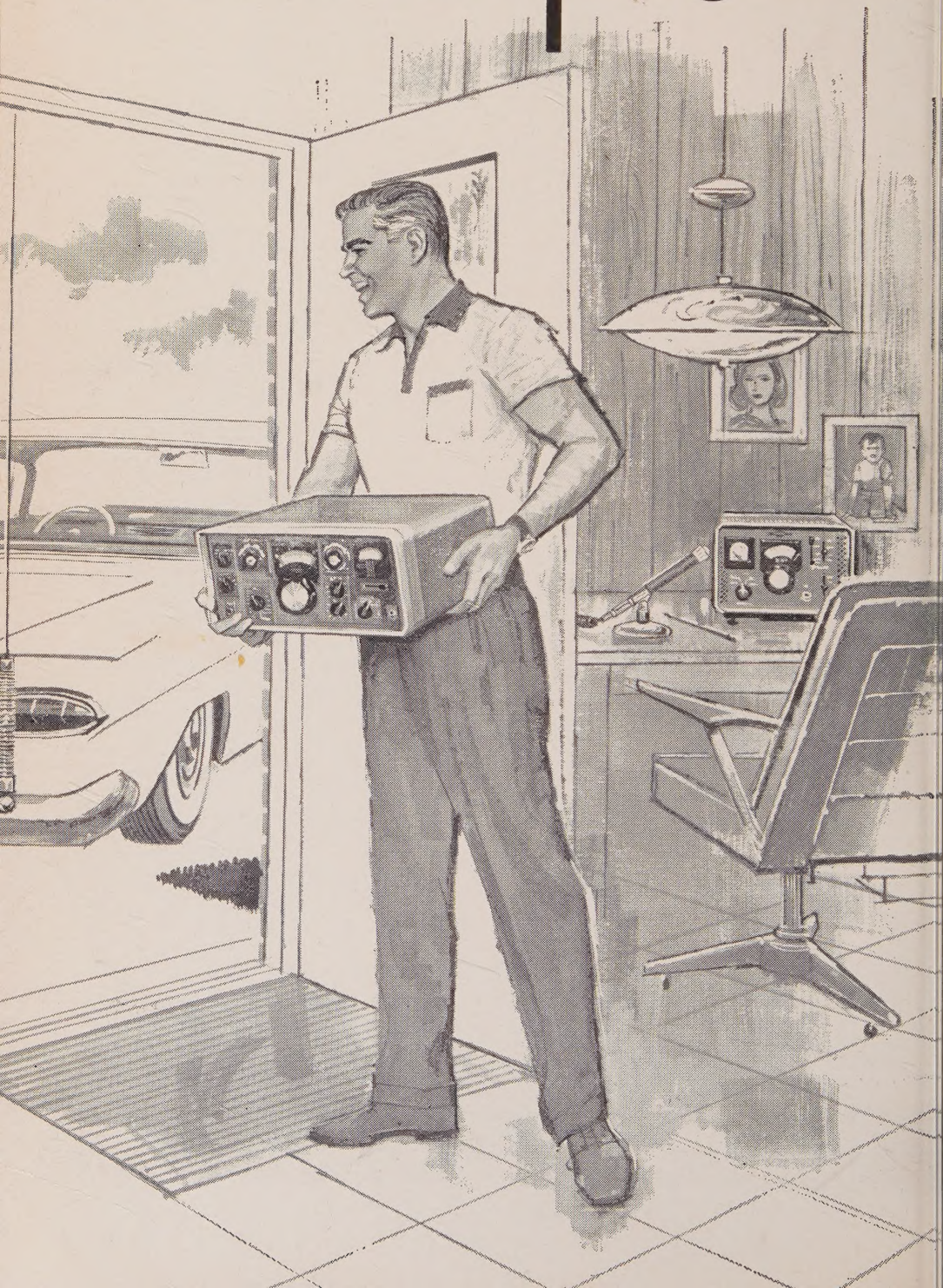
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PROJECT OSCAR

The Radio Amateur's Journal

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For further information, check number 3, on page 126

March, 1961 • CQ • 1

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- **TUBES AND FUNCTIONS:** 6DQ5 power output; 6CX8 crystal oscillator and driver; 12AX7 speech amplifier; 6DE7 modulator; silicon high voltage rectifiers.
- **FRONT PANEL:** Function (AC off, tune, standby, AM, CW); Band Selector (80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6); Drive control; Plate tuning, plate loading, Crystal-V.F.O.; Grid Current; Meter; AC indicator light; RF output.
- **REAR CHASSIS:** Microphone gain; antenna co-ax connector; remote control terminals; AC power cord.



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- **TUBES AND FUNCTIONS:** 6AZ8 tuned RF amplifier and crystal calibrator; 6U8 oscillator and mixer; 6BA6 1650 kc. IF amplifier and BFO; 6T8A 2nd detector, A.V.C., AM and 1st audio; 6AW8A audio power amplifier and S-meter amplifier; (2) silicon high voltage rectifiers.

P.S. Both units are available fully wired, and tested. SX-140, \$109.95. HT-40, \$99.95.

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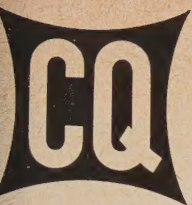
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For further information, check number 4, on page 126

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The Radio Amateur's Journal

EDITORIAL STAFF

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ASSISTANT EDITOR

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TECHNICAL EDITORS

ELAND W. AURICK, W2QEX

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CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

CONTEST CALENDAR

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V.H.F.

ROBERT BROWN, K2ZSQ

PROPAGATION

SPACE COMMUNICATIONS

GEORGE JACOBS, W3ASK

RTTY

RYON KRETZMAN, K8WMR

DX

URB LE JEUNE, W2DEC

YL

LOUISA B. SANDO, W5RZJ

HAM CLINIC

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NOVICE

SEMICONDUCTORS

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SIDEBAND

DOT STRAUER, K2MGE

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AROLD WEISNER, WA2OBR

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MARCH 1961

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High power for Outstanding Performance teamed
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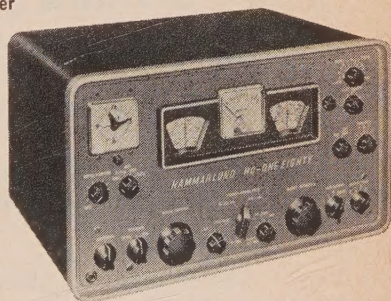
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REMEMBER THE 10th ANNUAL SSB DINNER, MARCH 21

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ZERO BIAS

EVERY once in a while (not often mind you), an item of amateur interest makes its way into our local newspapers. Usually, most of these anecdotes relate to amateur activities performed during a time of flood, hurricane or other mercy missions. Occasionally the public gets a glimpse of amateur radio when the local gang brews up a hamfest and the "cub" reporter arrives to relate to the public what he saw. Other than a local TVI complaint or a sharp-eyed motorist who spots a "peculiar" license plate, the public generally hasn't the remotest idea of what amateur radio is all about. Any traffic man can attest to the fact that when a message is delivered via the land-line, many people are completely ignorant of the service amateur radio plays in the field of communications.

As Project OSCAR^{1,2} nears reality, there is an excellent chance that the public will, with great interest, become aware of the role played by amateur radio.

A small group of amateurs in Sunnyvale California, working on their own time, are formulating an idea which will put into orbit, a satellite transmitting in the amateur bands. When OSCAR is put into orbit, the data usually recovered by sophisticated tracking stations will be recovered by none other than radio amateurs. This feat in itself will make the amount of data recovered by "Discoverer" and "Explorer" look like a drop in the bucket. With the possibility of thousands of tracking stations submitting data to a central agency, this project may become one of the most successful launchings ever made.

We can see amateur radio reaping great prestige from this type of project, but, we feel that we must make it clear that to rush into a plan of this kind for glory alone, is walking the wrong road.

Right now the Project OSCAR committee, headed by Fred Hicks, W6EJU, the Chairman, is seeking reactions from interested amateurs who may offer some ideas for the project.

Team work is certainly the main theme for this undertaking and we hope that the cooperation which should be forthcoming is properly solicited.

Speaking of team work, we are very pleased to report that John Chambers, W6NLZ and Ralph Thomas, KH6UK have jointly received the highly coveted Edison Radio Amateur Award, sponsored by the General Electric Company.

This year marks a highlight in the long line of Edison award winners, for this is the first time the award has been granted to two men *and* for a scientific achievement. V.h.f. enthusiasts will recall that KH6UK/W6NLZ set their record of 2,540 miles on two meters in 1957; the same distance on 220 mc in 1959 and a one-way record of 2,540 miles on 432 mc in 1960.

Special citations were awarded to Harry Phillips, W7CKV; Don Johnson, W6QIE; Frank Ireland, K4UUO; Al Parker, W4BAW; Cesare Cavadini, W6GYH; and Ed Van Deusen, W3ECP. A special commendation went to Mario Lagos, CE7BC who handled over 3,700 messages during the Chilian earthquake last summer.

We congratulate the recipients of this year's Edison Award and also the judges, for rendering an excellent decision.

¹SPACE COMMUNICATIONS, *CQ*, Dec. 1960, p. 76.
²Stoner, D. L., "Project Oscar," *QST*, Feb. 1961, p. 56.

It's The

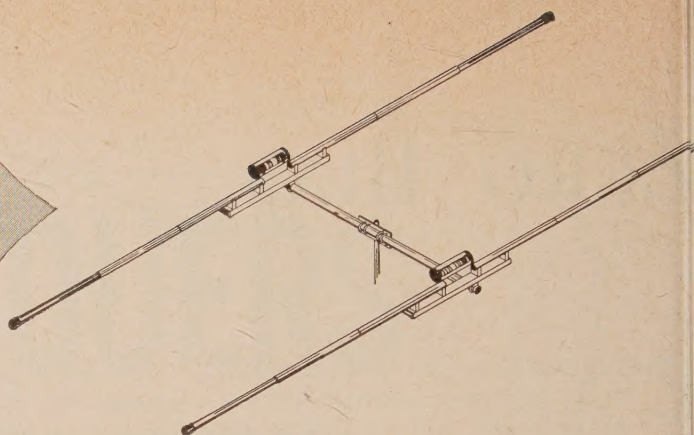
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Tenth Annual SSB Dinner
March 21, 1961
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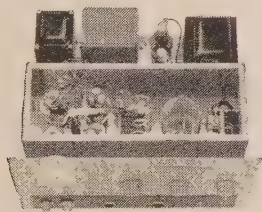
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This inside view shows the neat circuit layout and husky components that emphasize quality. Note the internal shielding of plate circuit for maximum protection against TVI.

CHECK THESE FEATURES . . .

Completely self-contained . . . HV, Fil. and Bias supplies built in.

Versatile . . . May be driven by any 50 to 125 watt transmitter or exciter—no matching or swamping network required.

Efficient . . . Stable grounded grid circuitry allows most driving power to appear in output for up to 70% efficiency.

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Model DX-60...\$8.30 dn., \$8 mo.....**\$82.95**



Model DX-60 **\$82⁹⁵**

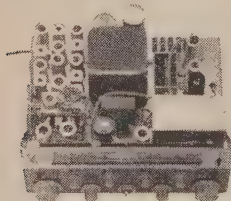
- Built-in low pass filter
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Model HW-20 (2 meters)...\$20 dn., \$17 mo.....**\$199.95**
Expected Shipping Date Feb. 25.

Model HW-10 (6 meters) Coming Soon.

Model
HW-29A

\$44⁹⁵



Attn. HW-29 owners: Convert your "Sixer" to the new improved "A" model with this easy-to-install conversion kit. Allows use of 8 mc crystal for maximum stability.

Model HWM-29-1 1 lb. \$4.95

lowest cost transceivers on the air

- Operate from low-frequency crystals for greater stability
- Push-to-talk Transmit/Receive switch
- Variable receiver tuning
- Built-In AC power supply—easy conversion to mobile operation, using accessory vibrator power supply

2, 6 & 10 METER TRANSCEIVER KITS (HW-30, 29A, 19)

These three outstanding transceiver models bring you top performance at the lowest prices offered in complete amateur facilities. Each model has a crystal controlled transmitter and tunable, superregenerative receiver with RF preamplifier. Receivers pull in signals as low as 1 uv and the 5 watt transmitters are ideal for emergency work or "local" net operation. Features include push-to-talk transmit/receive switch, metering jack, ceramic element microphone, and two power cables. Less crystal. 10 lbs. each.

Model HW-19 (10 meter)...\$4 dn., \$5 mo.....\$39.95

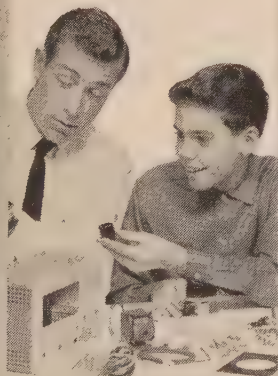
Model HW-29A (6 meter)...\$4.50 dn., \$5 mo.....\$44.95

Model HW-30 (2 meter)...\$4.50 dn., \$5 mo.....\$44.95

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Application

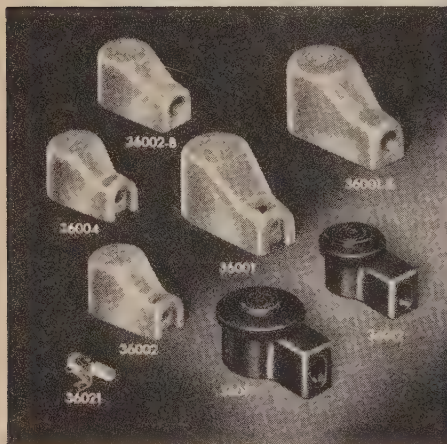


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Letters..... to the Editor



G.C. vs H.B.

Editor, CQ:

I have read with interest Mr. Tepper's article in the January issue of CQ titled "General Coverage versus Ham Band". The subject certainly is timely and Mr. Tepper has done a good job.

I would like to point out that our 2-A receiver has all the advantages of "Ham Band" only plus the capability of selecting any in between frequencies merely by inserting appropriate crystals. The Collins "S" line also has this feature, but each crystal covers only a 200 kc band compared to 600 kc for each crystal in our 2-A.

This type of reception is the equivalent of the use of crystal controlled converters with a tunable low frequency receiver. All the converter circuits are built into the 2-A and require only the plugging in of a crystal to make them operate on any frequency from 3.5 to 30 mc.

An additional feature of this design is the fact that any changes in ham band allocations cannot make the 2-A obsolete.

R. L. Drake, President
R. L. Drake Company
540 Richard St.
Miamisburg, Ohio

TVI??

Editor, CQ:

Recently I received a letter from the FCC indicating that I was causing TVI in a community in Connecticut. Under my present operating conditions, I considered this to be impossible and wrote the FCC explaining why. Since then I have not heard from the Regional Office (Boston, Mass.).

The reasons I gave the FCC were: One (1) 90 watt input to a Siemens RS 1003, driven with a Geloso vacuum tube on a 10 meter three element beam (all home brewed). Also a built in Modulation scope and BC-221 frequency meter. Two (2) I checked my entire frequency range and found I have an s.w.r. of 1-1.2 on the 10 meter beam, 1-1.3 on 15 & 20 meters (doublet antenna); 1-1.2 on 30 meters (doublet antenna). Three (3) no TVI or interference in my own home. Four (4) Extensive TVI and interference shielding. Five (5) grounding better than minimum requirements. Six (6) (Here is the KICKER), I received my license from the FCC as a Conditional Class license, while stationed in Germany and have not been in the Continental United States since the license was issued. I have been using my German Call (DL4OE) (DL5DE) only. I do sometimes tell other op's that my home call is K10HY.

Although TVI from Germany is possible it is entirely improbable with the rig as described above.

It is apparent that someone checked the Call Book and found me there and decided to use my call while I was away.

I suggest that the FCC require all hams that intend to operate outside of the CONUS (Continental US) to register with the local FCC office indicating where they will operate from, for how long, and what bands and band they will be using. Then if a complaint is received the FCC can check and know immediately if the man is in the CONUS and if he isn't, start monitoring the bootlegger without wasting time writing a letter that will be forwarded half way around the world before they find out they have the wrong man. This would save a lot of writing and help nab the bootlegger a lot faster.

Norman E. Brooks, DL4OE/K10HY
Headquarters, 34th Sig. Bn. Corp.
APO 154, N.Y., N.Y.

◀ For further information, check number 9, on page 1



Gonset continues to offer you big SSB values!

First, GSB-100, SSB transmitter/exciter... then GSB-101, the powerful 1000 watt P.E.P. linear amplifier. Now... to complete the SSB combo... *G-63 a communications receiver of exceptional value!*

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For SSB reception... compare G-63 with other receivers in the same price Bracket. G-63 is stable, has low-drift HF and BF oscillators. There are two second detectors: Product type for better SSB/CW reception and diode type for AM. Full vision drum dial spreads each amateur band fully for easy tuning—vernier tuning knob has flywheel for smooth operation. This modern receiver covers six amateur bands—80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters.

Other features: Double conversion—peaking-type "Q" multiplier gives adjustable band widths down to 100 cycles for CW. Bandpass I-F circuitry provides desirable steep-shoulder selectivity for AM and SSB reception. Also... "S" meter... AVC... Automatic noise limiter... plug-in crystal calibrator is available as an accessory.

G-63 communications receiver 239⁵⁰

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Versatile, easy to operate—the new Turner 254 gives hams a dependable desk type crystal mike that's engineered for all amateur communications. It operates by a touch-bar on-off switch and lever-lock on-off switch. Output level—48 db. Response level 60 — 8,000 cps. Smart grey hammertone finish. One-piece die cast construction gives years of rugged service. And it's priced for every ham budget — only \$14.10 net. See your Turner dealer right away, and get on the air with the new Turner 254.



925 17th Street N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

For further information, check number 12, on page 126

14 • CQ • March, 1961

Wobbulator®

Editor, CQ:

In your January issue of *CQ* we noted an article entitled "A Wobbulator for Filter Alignment." We wish to advise you that the term "Wobbulator" is a trademark belonging to this Corporation. If this word is used in the future, we would appreciate your giving recognition to our company.

George J. Hartman
Secretary & Treasurer
Canoga Electronics Corp.
15330 Oxnard St.
Van Nuys, Calif.

More, More, More!

Editor, CQ:

I have read with much interest the many letters and comments that have been made regarding reciprocal license agreements. This is of more than passing interest to me. I have lived in a foreign country where my United States license was of no value. The big problem, is of course, our country's refusal to license foreign amateurs.

I do not feel that the original law as written was meant to exclude foreign amateurs. I realize that the FCC must operate under this law, and that they have no choice in the matter. However, in view of the Canadian agreement, it would seem that the FCC does have some leeway in the matter if they choose to use it.

Notwithstanding this, there is another approach. It is in this approach that I feel that *CQ* could play a large and major part in helping to solve this problem.

We live in a democratic representative country. If the people do not like a law, or visa versa, it is within their power, through representation to change the statutes of this country. When the hams of this country wanted call letter license plates for their cars, they went through representatives of their local State governments, and have been very successful. There is no reason why the reciprocal license problem cannot be solved in the same way.

If all, or a major portion, of the amateurs would contact their Congressional Representatives and Senators in the proper manner, stating their valid reasons and desires, then Congress could change this law to permit the solution of this problem. It is well known that our Congress responds to the wishes of their people, provided reasonable numbers express their sentiments.

I suggest therefore, the *CQ* start a campaign to alert its readers of this possibility. This should urge all amateurs to write the proper people in Congress in the proper manner, and giving proper reasons and information. If the hams respond in a body, I predict an early solution. I feel that having the law changed is the only solution to this problem.

I think *CQ* can render a valuable service to amateurs by giving publicity to this approach, and urging this individual action on the part of the many thousands of amateurs in this country.

Alden H. Davis, W5DPI
P.O. Box 831
Borger, Texas

Signal Reports

Editor, CQ:

I write to try to get your backing to initiate a new method of report which has some real meaning. The report system that I have used since 1918 is now and always has been meaningless. I am quite sure you will have to agree when proper thought is given to the subject. My proposal is as follows:

1. The operator first tunes the band and decides which signal is the strongest signal he can find on the band, such as S9 + 20 db.

2. He then proceeds to work a station and gives him a report as follows: "Your signal here is S9 + 5, S9 + 20." This then means that with the receiver-antenna, and receiving conditions existing at that time, the station being worked is S9 + 5 db on a band that S9 +

[Continued on page 108]

INTERNATIONAL 1961 CATALOG

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March, 1961 • CQ • 15

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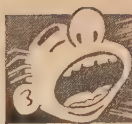
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CQ 74



ANNOUNCING

Tenth Annual S.S.B. Dinner

The S.S.B. Amateur Radio Association will sponsor the Tenth Annual S.S.B. Dinner and Hamfest on Tuesday March 21st at the Hotel Statler-Hilton, 33rd St. and 7th Avenue, N.Y.C. All amateurs and their friends are invited. Held during the week of the I.R.E. Convention, this dinner attracts many outstanding radio amateurs and communications men from all parts of the world. Emphasis will be placed on a large social gathering featuring good food, good fellowship and professional entertainment. There will be no formal speeches.

Equipment displays open at 10 A.M. and the dinner starts at 7:30 P.M. William B. Williams, noted radio personality, will be master of ceremonies. Tickets purchased in advance are \$10 each and \$11 at the door.

Send checks for reservations to SSBARA, care of Mike Le Vine, WA2BLH, 33 Allen Road, Rockville Centre, L.I., N.Y.

New Publication

Standard Frequencies and Time Signals from NBS Stations WWV and WWVH, a National Bureau of Standards Miscellaneous Publication 236, issued December 1, 1960, 5 pages, 10 cents is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

This publication describes the six technical services broadcast by National Bureau of Standards radio stations WWV and WWVH. These widely used services include: 1, standard radio frequencies; 2, standard audio frequencies; 3, standard time intervals; 4, standard musical pitch; 5, time signals; and 6, radio propagation forecasts.

Other domestic and foreign standard frequency and radio time signal broadcasts are tabulated in this publication, and stations operating outside the exclusive bands, and other time signal broadcasts are given. Foreign remittances must be in U.S. exchange and should include an additional one-fourth of the publication price to cover mailing costs.

Alaska Mars Party

The Alaskan Air Force MARS party will be held on the 10th of March at 1900 hours at the non-commissioned officers club at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. All Air Force MARS members and their immediate families are cordially invited to attend. There will be a drawing for some very fine gifts. Dancing to the music of the Elmendorf AFB combo will follow the dinner. Anyone planning on attending should contact, D. L. Lindblom, 1383R/Vista Rd. Anchorage Alaska Phone BR 60392, for further information and reservations. Reservations must be in by 5 March 1961.

DARC Deutschlandtriffer 1961

The Dortmund gang, (DL2, 4 and 5) have joined together and announce what is expected to be one of the largest gatherings in Europe. Filling three days, May 19, 20 and 21 the hamfest will conduct tours of the local scenery as well as amateur events. Included will be discussion groups on v.h.f., DX, s.s.b., a mobile d.f. contest and many more items. Some of the events require pre-registration, so that everyone is urged to sign-up as soon as possible. Details should include the number of persons, accommodation requirements and whether or not you intend to participate in the events. Mail all inquiries to DARC Tagungsbüro Dortmund, Borsgrasse 68, or Russ Lawson, DL4BS, P. O. Box 3049 Darmstadt. Russ' picture, by the way, can be found in CQ for January 1961 on page 61.

[Continued on page 106]

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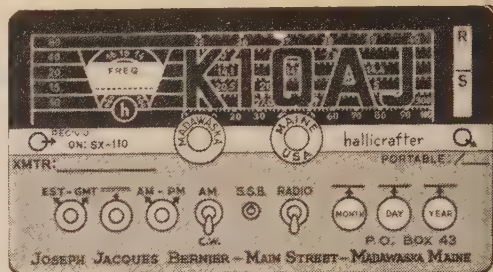


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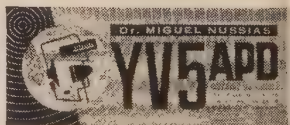
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QSL contest



A free subscription this month goes to K1QAJ who has submitted a rather interesting card with data displayed in the form of controls on an SX-110. The card is done in black and grey and the call is in red.

Runners Up

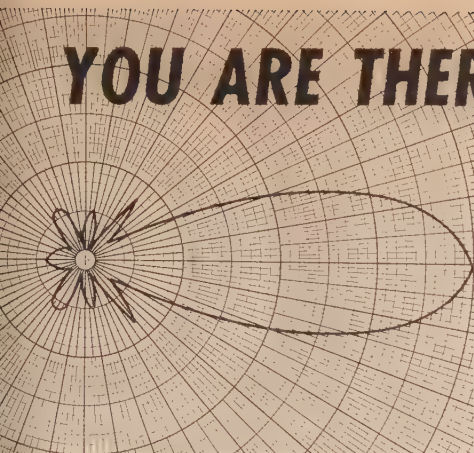


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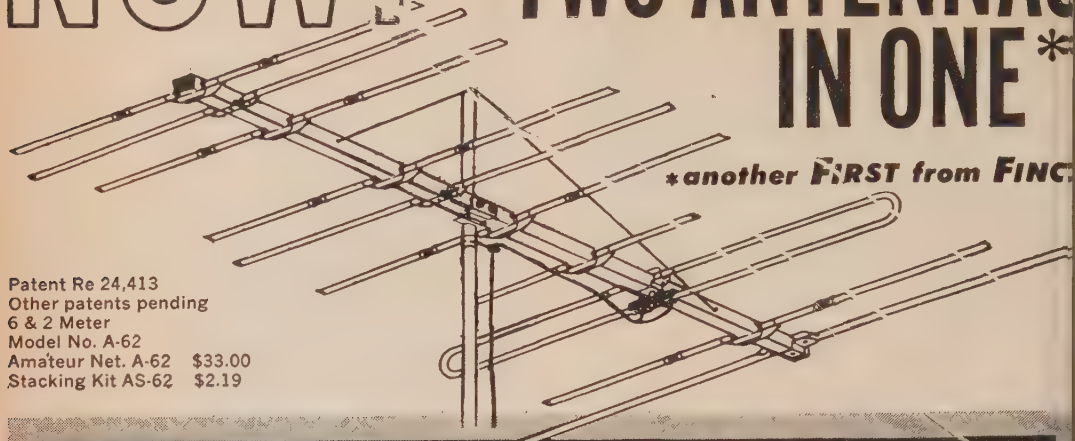
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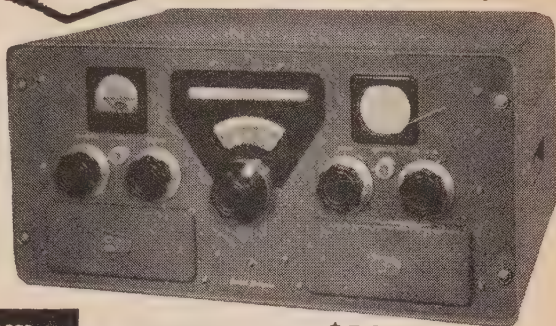
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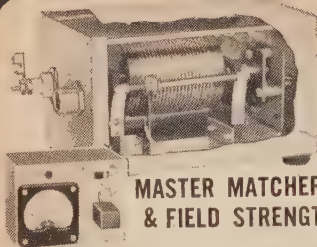
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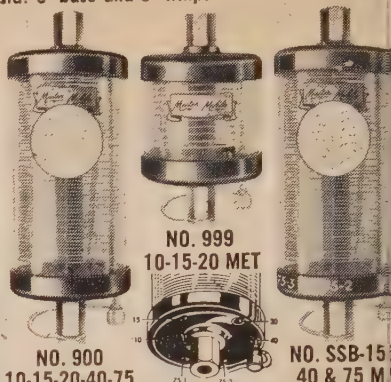
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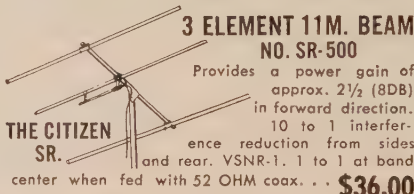
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3 ELEMENT 11M. BEAM

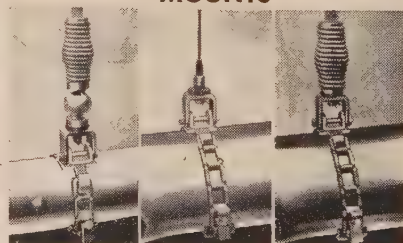
NO. SR-500

Provides a power gain of
approx. 2 1/2 (8DB)
in forward direction.

10 to 1 inter-
ference reduction from sides
and rear. VSWR-1.1 to 1 at band

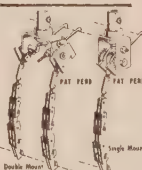
center when fed with 52 OHM coax. . . **\$36.00**

MOUNTS



No. 444 \$17.80 No. 445 \$7.95 No. 446 \$13.45

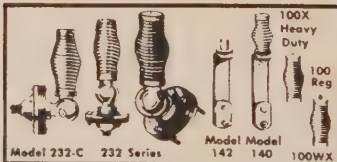
Adjustable to any bumper. No holes to drill.



UNIVERSAL MOUNTS

Heavy-duty communications an-
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MM530 Deluxe Dbl. SS. \$21.95
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40" base loaded
S.S. whip antenna.
Fitted with a 1/4"
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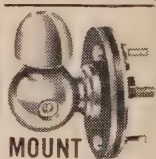
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from **EICO®** ... a completely new

CITIZENS BAND TRANSCEIVER

that meets
FCC regulations*

EICO premounts, prewires, pretunes, and seals the ENTIRE transmitter oscillator circuit to conform with FCC regulations Section 19.71 subdivision d). EICO thus gives you the transceiver in kit form that you can build and put on the air without the supervision of a Commercial Radio-Telephone Licensee!

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117 VAC
Kit
\$59.95
Wired
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Kit \$69.95
Wired \$99.95
#761: 117 VAC & 6 VDC
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Ham standards

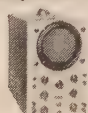
Highly sensitive, selective SUPERHET (not regenerative) receiver with 5½ dual function tubes and RF stage. Continuous tuning over all 23 bands. Exclusive Super-Hush® noise limiter. AVC. 3" x 5" PM speaker. Detachable ceramic mike. 5 Watt xtal-controlled transmitter. Variable "pi" network matches most popular antennas. 12-position Posi-Lock® mounting bracket. 7 tubes and 1 xtal (extra xtals available). Covers up to 20 miles. License available to any citizen over 18 — no exams or special skills required; application form supplied free. Antennas optional.

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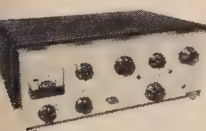
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NEW! 60-WATT CW TRANSMITTER #723
Kit \$49.95 Wired \$79.95
Ideal for novice or advanced ham needing low-power, stand-by rig. 60W CW, 50W external plate modulation. 80 through 10 meters.



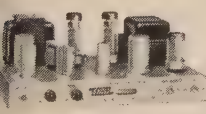
COLOR & MONO DC-5MC LAB & TV 5" OSCILLOSCOPE #460
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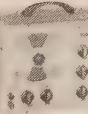
90-WATT CW TRANSMITTER*
#720 Kit \$79.95 Wired \$119.95
*U. S. Pat. No. D-184,776
"Top quality" — ELECTRONIC KITS GUIDE. Ideal for veteran or novice. 90W CW, 65W external plate modulation. 80 through 10 meters.



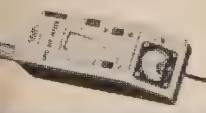
PEAK-TO-PEAK VTVM #232 & *UNI-PROBE®
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HIGH-LEVEL UNIVERSAL MODULATOR-DRIVER #730
Kit \$49.95 Wired \$79.95
Delivers 50W undistorted audio. Modulates transmitters having RF inputs up to 100W. Unique over-modulation indicator. Cover E-5 \$4.50.



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Includes complete set of coils for full band coverage. Continuous coverage 400 kc to 250 mc. 500 ua meter.



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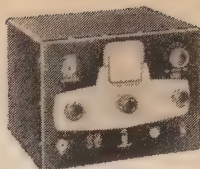
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City..... Zone..... State.....

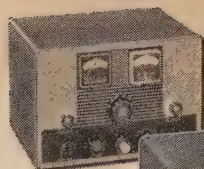
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features and
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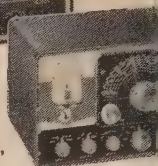
Viking TRANSMITTER LINE



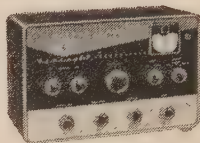
"ADVENTURER"



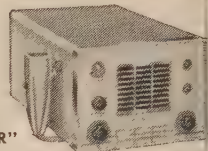
"CHALLENGER"



"NAVIGATOR"



"6N2"



10-METER
"MESSENGER"

"ADVENTURER" TRANSMITTER

Self-contained . . . 50 watts CW input . . . rugged 807 transmitting tube . . . instant bandswitching 80 through 10 meters. Crystal or external VFO control—wide range pi-network output—timed sequence keying. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. 240-181-1 . . . Kit Amateur Net \$54.95

"CHALLENGER" TRANSMITTER

70 watts phone input 80 through 6; 120 watts CW input 80 through 10 . . . 85 watts CW on 6 meters. Two 6DQ6A final amplifier tubes. Crystal or external VFO control—TVI suppressed—wide range pi-network output. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. 240-182-1 . . . Kit Amateur Net \$114.75

Cat. No. 240-182-2 . . . Wired Amateur Net \$154.75

"NAVIGATOR" TRANSMITTER/EXCITER

40 watts CW input . . . also serves as a flexible VFO Exciter. 6146 final amplifier tube—bandswitching 160 through 10 meters. Built-in VFO or crystal control. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. 240-126-1 . . . Kit Amateur Net \$149.50

Cat. No. 240-126-2 . . . Wired Amateur Net \$199.50

"6N2" TRANSMITTER

Rated 150 watts CW and 100 watts phone—offers instant bandswitching coverage of both 6 and 2 meters. Fully suppressed—may be used with the Viking I, II, "Ranger" "Valiant" or similar power supply/modulator combinations. Operates by crystal control or external VFO. 8-9 mc. output. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. 240-201-1 . . . Kit Amateur Net \$114.75

Cat. No. 240-201-2 . . . Wired Amateur Net \$154.75

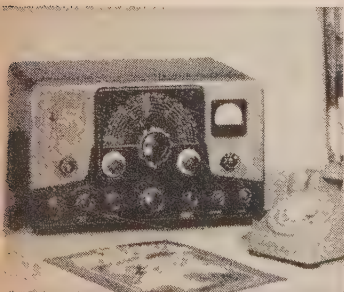
10-METER "MESSENGER" TRANSCEIVER

Complete 10-tube (including rectifier) crystal-controlled transceiver. 10 watts input—pre-tuned for 29.4 to 29.7—covers any 5 frequencies within a 300 kc segment of 10-meter band. Excellent receiver sensitivity and selectivity. ANL, AVC, and positive-acting Squelch. 10 tubes, push-to-talk microphone, and crystals for narrow calling and emergency frequency (29,640 kc).

Cat. No. 242-201 . . . 115 V only Amateur Net \$124.75

Cat. No. 242-202 . . . 115 V and 6 V Amateur Net \$139.75

Cat. No. 242-203 . . . 115 V and 12 V Amateur Net \$154.75



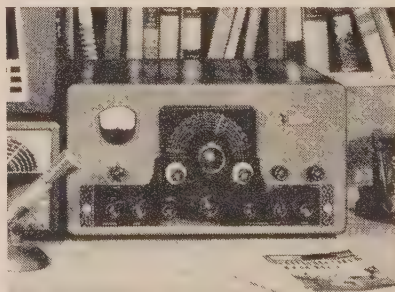
"RANGER" TRANSMITTER/EXCITER

This popular 75 watt CW or 65 watt phone transmitter will also serve as an RF/audio exciter for high power equipment. Completely self-contained—instant bandswitching 160 through 10 meters! Operates by built-in VFO or crystal control. High gain audio—timed sequence keying TVI suppressed. Pi-network antenna load matching from 50 to 500 ohms. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. Amateur Net

240-161-1 . . . Kit \$229.50

240-161-2 . . . Wired and tested . . . \$329.50



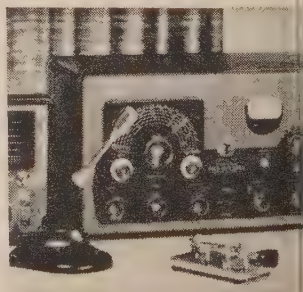
"VALIANT" TRANSMITTER

275 watts input CW and SSB (P.E.P. with auxiliary SSB exciter) 200 watts phone. Instant bandswitching 160 through 10 meters—built-in VFO or crystal control. Pi-network output matches antenna loads from 50 to 600 ohms. TVI suppressed—timed sequence keying—built-in low pass audio filter—self-contained power supplies. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. Amateur Net

240-104-1 . . . Kit \$349.50

240-104-2 . . . Wired and tested . . . \$439.50



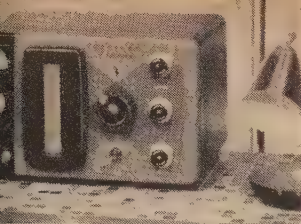
"FIVE HUNDRED" TRANSMITTER

Full 600 watts CW—500 watts phone and SSB. (P.E.P. with auxiliary SSB exciter.) Compact RF unit designed for desk-top operation. All external stages ganged to VFO tuning—also be operated by crystal control. Instant bandswitching 80 through 10 meters—TVI suppressed—high gain push-to-talk audio system. Wide range pi-network output. With tubes, less crystals.

Cat. No. Amateur

240-500-1 . . . Kit \$749.50

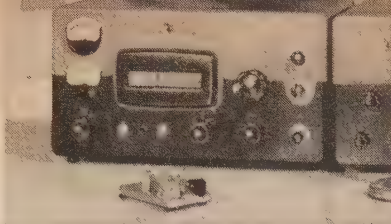
240-500-2 . . . Wired and tested . . . \$949.50



"COURIER" AMPLIFIER

ted a solid 500 watts P.E.P. input
h auxiliary SSB exciter as a Class
linear amplifier; 500 watts CW or
0 watts AM linear. Self-contained
k-top package—continuous cov-
ge 3.5 to 30 mcs. Drive require-
nts: 5 to 35 watts depending on
de and frequency desired. TVI
pressed. With tubes and built-in
ver supply.

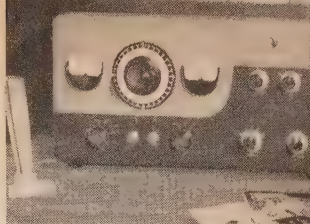
No. **Amateur Net**
-352-2...Wired and tested...\$289.50



"THUNDERBOLT" AMPLIFIER

The hottest linear amplifier on the
market—2000 watts P.E.P. (twice
average DC) input SSB; 1000 watts
CW; 800 watts AM linear. Contin-
uous coverage 3.5 to 30 mcs.—instant
bandswitching. Drive requirements;
approx. 10 watts Class AB₁ linear,
20 watts Class C continuous wave.
With tubes and built-in power supply.

Cat. No. **Amateur Net**
240-353-1...Kit.....\$524.50
240-353-2...Wired and tested...\$589.50



"6N2 THUNDERBOLT" AMPLIFIER

1200 watts (twice average DC) in-
put SSB and DSB, Class AB₁; 1000
watts CW, Class C; and 700 watt
input AM linear. Continuous band-
switched coverage on 6 and 2 meter
TVI suppressed. Drive requirement
approx. 5 watts Class AB₁ linear,
watts Class C CW. With tubes and
built-in power supply.

Cat. No. **Amateur Net**
240-362-1...Kit.....\$524.50
240-362-2...Wired and tested...\$589.50

The world at your fingertips!

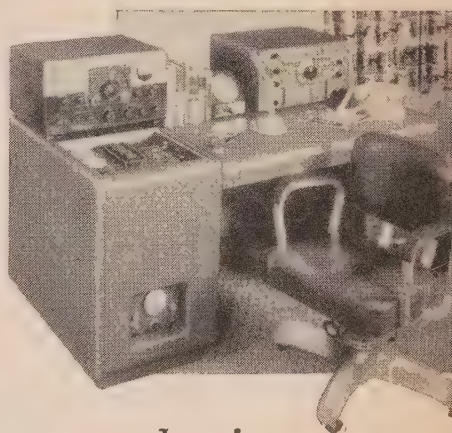
"KILOWATT" AMPLIFIER

Only transmitter that provides maximum legal power in all
modes—SSB, CW, and plate modulated AM. Two 4-400A tubes
Class AB₂ easily deliver 2000 watts P.E.P. (twice average DC)
SSB mode—1000 watts input AM with two push-pull 810 tubes
Class B modulator service—1000 watts input Class C CW.
High efficiency pi-network output circuit. Excitation require-
ments: 30 watts RF and 10 watts audio for AM; 10 watts peak
SSB. Pedestal contains complete unit. With tubes.

No. 240-1000...Wired and tested.....**Amateur Net \$1595.00**

atching desk-top and three-drawer pedestal.

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The very finest SSB equipment you can buy!

Filter Type Sideband—Highly Stable Operation and
Unusually Sharp Response!

INVADER

The transmitter you've been waiting
for—with more exclusive features
than any other Transmitter/Exciter
on the market today! Instant band-
switching 80 through 10 meters—no
extra crystals to buy—no retuning
necessary. Rated 200 watts CW and
SSB input; 90 watts input on AM.
Unwanted sideband and carrier sup-
pression is 60 db or better! Wide
range pi-network output circuit. Fully
TVI suppressed. Self-contained
heavy-duty power supply. Wired and
tested with tubes and crystals.

Cat. No. **Amateur Net**
240-302-2.....\$619.50

HI-POWER CONVERSION

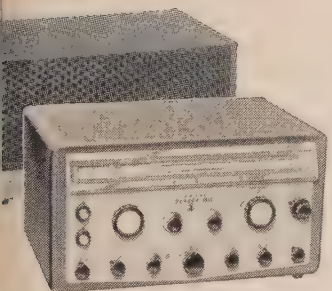
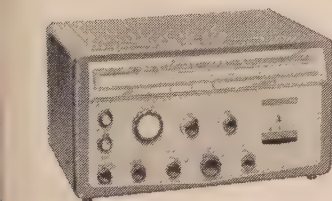
Take the features and performance of your "Invader"... add the power and
flexibility of this unique Viking "Hi-Power Conversion" system... and you're
"on the air" with the "Invader-2000"—a solid 2000 watts P.E.P. (twice average
DC) input SSB, 1000 watts CW and 800 watts input AM. Completely wired
and tested—includes *everything* you need—no soldering necessary—complete
the entire conversion in one evening!

Cat. No. 240-303-2...Hi-Power Conversion, complete.....**Amateur Net \$619.50**

INVADER-2000

Here are all of the fine features of
the "Invader", plus the added power
and flexibility of an integral linear
amplifier and remote controlled
power supply. Rated a solid 2000
watts P.E.P. (twice average DC) in-
put on SSB; 1000 watts CW; and
800 watts input AM! Wide range
output circuit (40 to 600 ohms ad-
justable). Final amplifier provides
exceptionally uniform "Q". Exclu-
sive "push-pull" cooling system.
Heavy-duty multi-section power
supply. Wired and tested with power
supply, tubes and crystals.

Cat. No. **Amateur Net**
240-304-2.....\$1229.00



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amateur equipment cat-
-complete specifications,
tions and schematics on
amateur equipment.



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WASECA • MINNESOTA

For further information, check number 18 on page 126.

The "ALL AROUND"

A Versatile 10 Meter Portable Rig

William H. Kennedy, W3ZFJ

RD #2 Box 67A
Export, Pennsylvania

The need often arises for a lightweight and versatile station able to do a respectable job in widely varying situations. The unit described here, meets these requirements with a 30-40 watt 10 meter a.m. transmitter and small superregenerative receiver. In addition, a system of jumper "programming" plugs allows the use of any portion of the unit independently.

I HAVE, for some time, felt the need for a 10 meter portable rig that could be used anywhere and anytime. The rig described here has proved to be one of the most valuable pieces of equipment in my shack. Before going into the details of the circuitry I would like to give you some idea as to the versatility of the "All Around."

The unit runs 30-40 watts input with high level modulation. The r.f. and the audio may be used independently and simultaneously to provide drive for a higher power final and modulator which is being done at the present time. The power supply may also be used independently or with the modulator for another r.f. section, 2 meters for example. The transmitter may be used for mobile operation on either 6 volts or 12 volts. A superregenerative receiver is included for portable use. Muting voltages, speaker, and antenna switching are available for use with a regular station receiver. This switching, or programing if you will, is done very

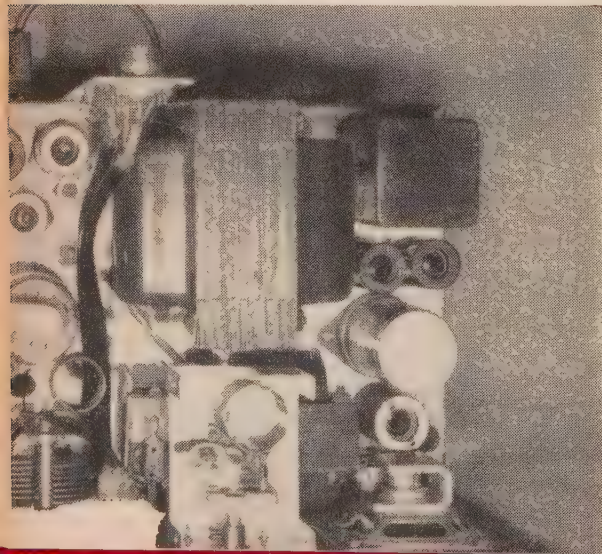
simply with three Jones plugs and appropriate jumpers. The details of this programing will unfold as we describe the individual circuits.

Circuit Description

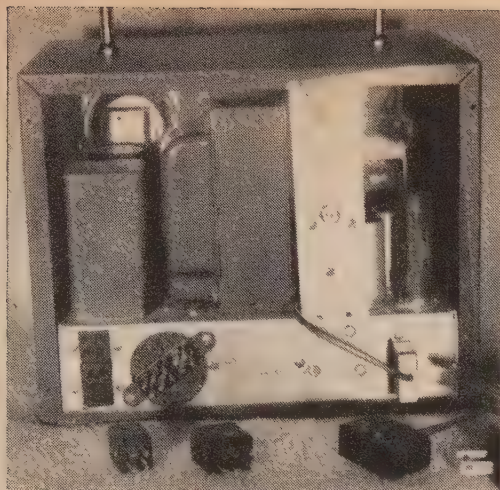
The v.f.o. is a standard Clapp oscillator operating on 7 mc. The frequency determining components are mounted in a $2\frac{3}{4}" \times 2\frac{1}{8}" \times 1\frac{1}{8}"$ Minibox on the front panel with coax cable connecting the tank circuit to the tube. An external v.f.o. may be used at a fixed location if better calibration is desired than that obtained with the 0-100 division dial used here.

The 6J6 twin doubler should be familiar to CQ readers interested in mobile operation¹. It is W6WYA's 28-9 driver. Be sure to use ceramic sockets, short leads, and coil forms similar to the National XR-50, for this circuit. Any compromise will result in inadequate grid drive to the final.

¹J. R. Smith, "The 28-9" CQ, May 1952, p. 47.



Top view of the "All Around" showing v.f.o. components mounted in a small minibox. R.f. components on the left consist of the plate tuning capacitor mounted on the front panel, with the antenna loading capacitor mounted below it, out of sight. Behind the 6J6 is the 6J6, 6AH6 and 0B2 voltage regulator. The large transformer behind the v.f.o. is the power transformer, T₄.



Rear view shows the "programming" plug arrangement on the left. On the right of the chassis is the v.f.o. plug made from an old surplus crystal holder. The vertical bracket contains the three antenna connectors.

from internal antenna and B+ relay is also brought to J_2 so that resistor R_2 may be inserted in series with the coil for 12 volt operation.

When the unit was first put into operation, the fixed station receiver (75A-4) appeared to be returning to "on" before the transmitter was fully off, due to the use of both a switch and relay for RECEIVE-TRANSMIT switching. This caused a very short but disturbing feedback screech. This was corrected by installing capacitor C_2 across the muting voltage. This provided sufficient delay.

Receiver Switching

The superregenerative receiver B+ and the receiver audio output are passed through J_1 and

may be disconnected, enabling a regular station receiver to be used. Pin 6 of J_1 provides 25 volts on transmit for receivers requiring a muting voltage (75A-4) or this voltage may be applied to a 10K plate relay to provide switch muting. The speaker in the unit is connected to pin 5 and may also be used with another receiver. The +200V at pin 3 of J_1 may be used to supply power to a converter for higher frequencies. I have used this voltage applied to the internal receiver and simultaneously with a 2 meter converter and used the internal superregenerative receiver as the tuneable i.f. Figure 4 shows the necessary jumper and cable connections.

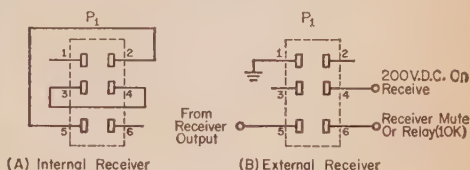


Fig. 4—Plug P_1 connections for selection of either the internal or an external receiver.

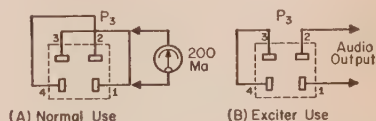


Fig. 5—Plug P_3 connections for selecting internal or external modulator as well as for allowing use of the "All Around" to drive a high power amplifier and modulator.

Transmitter

A 4 prong Jones socket is used for J_3 to disconnect the final from the modulator. The r.f. may be disconnected altogether and the power supply and modulator used with a separate r.f. section, again 2 meters! By the way, this rig is a

(Continued on page 114)

Front panel layout of the "All Around," a ten meter transmitter-receiver featuring a 6146 as an r.f. amplifier with a pi-network output and a two-tube superregenerative receiver. Provision is made for operation from 6 and 12 volts d.c. or 110 volts a.c. By means of suitable jumpered plugs the regular station receiver may be interconnected in place of the superregen, and the audio and r.f. portions of the unit may be tapped for use with other equipment. Receiver controls are grouped around the bottom center of the cabinet. The lever switch at the lower left is the TRANSMIT-RECEIVE-ZERO control.



A 1500 Watt Dummy Load

Ken "Judge" Glanzer, K7GCO

202 S. 124th
Seattle 88, Washington

With the ever increasing popularity of s.s.b., a high power dummy load for final amplifier testing is a must. Here is a simple and inexpensive 50 ohm load that fills the bill. The resistive elements have been advertised in CQ from time to time. They are 600 ohm units rated at 125 watts. Twelve are used in parallel to provide 50 ohms at 1500 watts.

A dummy load is not quite complete without some method of indicating power. W7JNC's original design used a built in r.f. voltmeter. R.f. ammeters are used in this model because of their availability and simplicity. The ammeters were converted to a plug-in type to accommodate different power levels. The terminal posts of different meters are often the same distance apart so different range meters may be used. Banana jacks are screwed into the r.f. ammeter rear terminals which have been drilled and tapped for 6-32 screws as shown in fig. 1.

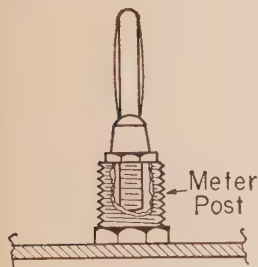


Fig. 1—Detail of banana jack attached to the meter terminal. Jacks are available, drilled for a 6-32 screw.

Mounting The Resistors

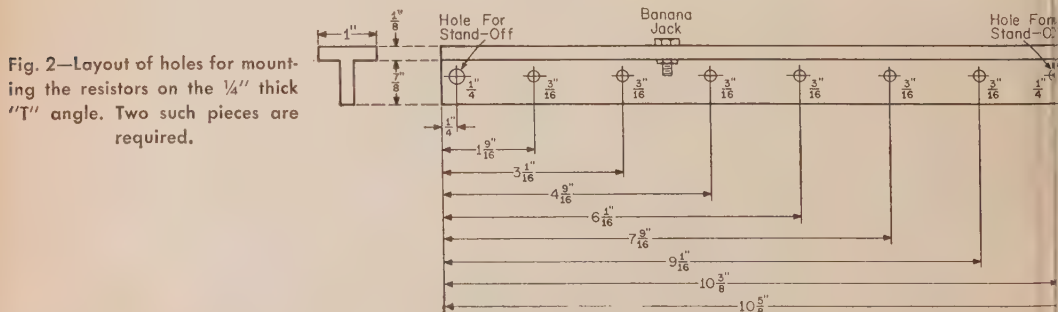
The resistors are mounted on two 10% inch lengths of "T" angle aluminum obtained from a local surplus house. Actually a strip about 1 inch wide and 1/8" thick would work just as well and be easier to obtain.

The two brackets, 10⁵/₈ inches long, are drilled as shown in fig. 2. The large fuse clips (available from Mil E Supply at 10¢ each) are mounted with two 10-32 or 10-24 × 3/8" bolts as illustrated in the photographs. The entire unit will be mounted on a four standoff insulators.

Laying Out The Sheet Metal

The load is housed in a shielded cabinet made of Reynolds Do-It-Yourself $\frac{1}{2}$ " angle (two 6 ft lengths required) and perforated aluminum (one square yard required) available at most hardware stores. The perforated aluminum may be cut with shears and the angle with a hand saw. The pattern for cutting the perforated sheet is shown in fig. 1. It is important that this pattern be followed precisely.

Two edges of the perforated sheet are solid (finished) and the template measurements should start from one of these edges. All the dashed lines are "bends" and should fall out on the large holes as it is very easy to bend there. The solid lines on the template are cutting lines. These should, where possible, fall out between the small and large holes so that a straight edge results. It is advisable to use masking tape on the sheet so that accurate measurements may be marked off. Be sure to remove the thin coat of oil from the aluminum so that the tape will adhere.



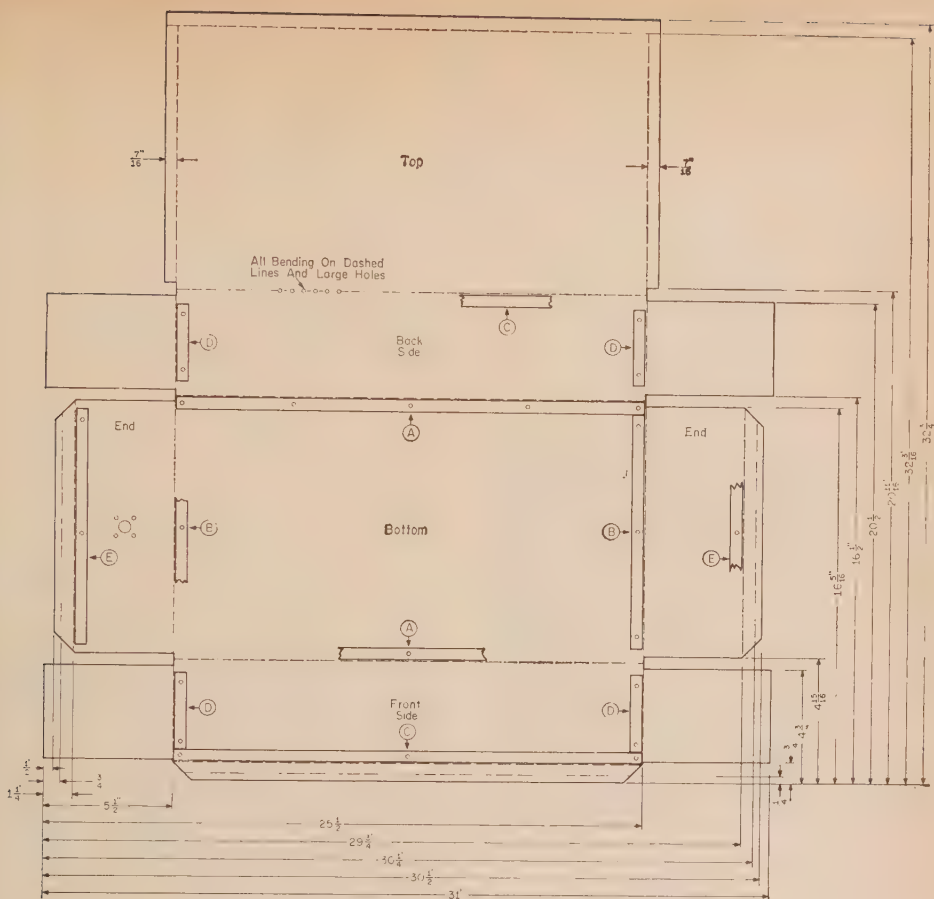


Fig. 3--Template for cutting perforated aluminum sheet to be folded into cage for the resistors.

Framing The Case Bottom

The $20" \times \frac{1}{2}" \times \frac{1}{2}"$ angle is first mounted on the bottom section (lengths A in fig. 3). The procedure to use is to hold the angle stock in place under the perforated aluminum and, using a scribe, mark off a hole to be drilled with a $\frac{7}{64}"$ drill bit. It is then tapped for a 6-32 screw. Mount the angle with one $6-32 \times \frac{1}{4}"$ screw to hold it in place. Mark

off a second point at the other end and drill and tap it also. A total of 5 mounting holes are drilled in the 20 inch lengths. Mount the second 20 inch length in the same manner.

Sheet metal screws may be used instead of 6-32 screws but great care must be taken not to strip the aluminum as the aluminum angles are soft.

The two $10\frac{1}{2}"$ strips may then be mounted to form the base.

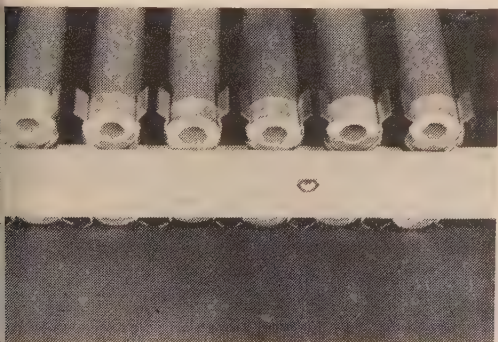
When fitting the angle, the edges should be positioned so that it is slightly off center of the large holes. This will permit the perforated aluminum to bend on the center of the large holes. Some practice using the scrap sheets will quickly give you an idea of the correct mounting position.

The edges of the 20 inch lengths should end at the center of the large holes. If they do not, file accordingly.

The two $10\frac{1}{2}"$ lengths (marked B in fig. 3) may now be mounted.

Mounting The Load

Place the load with the attached 2" insulators on the bottom section. The edges of the cone insulators should set snug against the vertical portion of the angle. If no r.f. ammeters are to be used the load



End view of the globars mounted on the Tee angle. Banana jack for meter can be seen mounted between two globars.

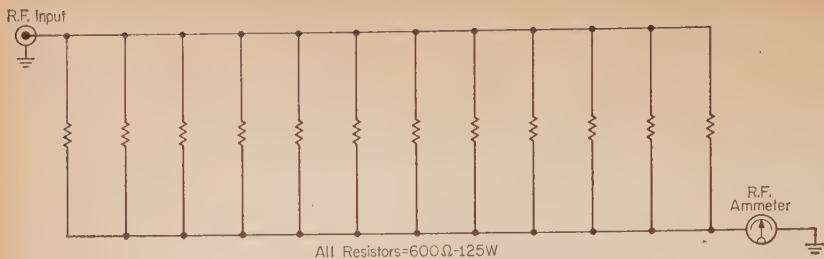
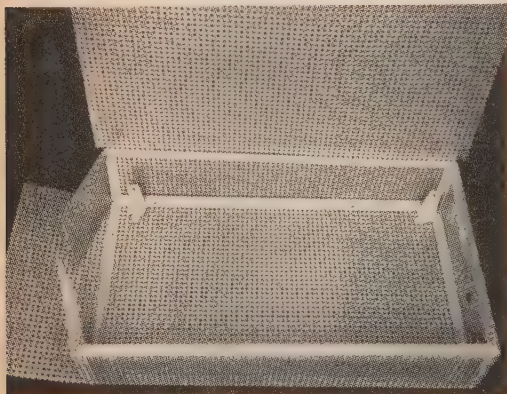


Fig. 4—Simple circuit of the 1500 watt dummy load using inexpensive high power, non-inductive resistors, available surplus.

is mounted flush with the end of the case and only two standoffs are used. If the ammeters are used, the load is mounted $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the end in which the ammeter is to be set. When the load is in position mark off the insulator mounting holes and ream or drill them for the mounting screws.

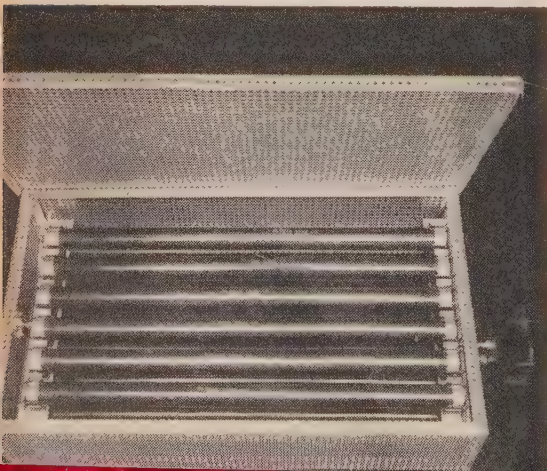


Partially completed case. Note shims under the cone insulators. The standoff insulators and the load are positioned before the sides are bent up. Note how the edges are folded over the angle on the right.

Since only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the standoff base is resting on the bracket, shims must be formed to provide a more solid footing. The shims are formed from two 1" lengths of angle cut down the center. Quarter inch holes are drilled close to the edges of the four pieces and they are placed under each insulator as shown in the photographs.

Remove the load but leave the insulators attached to the base.

Completed load ready to be buttoned up.

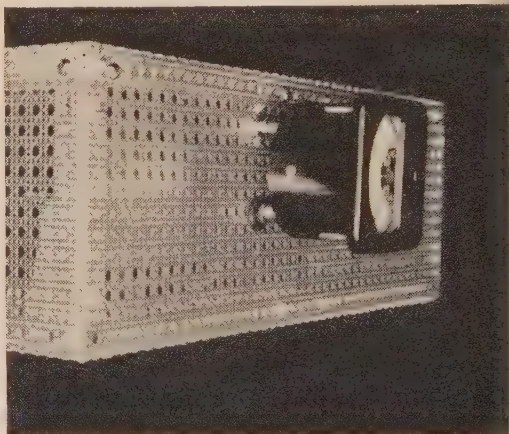


Framing The Case Sides and Top

The 20" length of stock angle for the top of the front and back sides (C) are mounted next. Now bend the sides up at right angles and mount the vertical side pieces (D) which are about $3\frac{1}{4}$ " long.

It is now possible to fold the four end flaps in and mount the top end pieces (E). The two end flaps may now be folded up and the whole end section bolted together.

The extra aluminum is bent around the angle so that when the bolts are removed the angle remains stationary. This is necessary, as these bolts must be removed and then reinserted through the cover when it is bent bent down and formed.



Note how r.f. ammeter is mounted. Grommet prevents jack from shorting to the case.

Mounting The Meter and Connector

The position of the ground return banana jack mounted on the case is determined by the location of the jack on the "T" angle. First ream out a hole in front of the jack on the "T" angle and install a rubber grommet. Partially insert the r.f. ammeter and mark the hole location for the banana jack on the case. Ream out the hole for the banana jack and mount it.

If a flat $1" \times \frac{1}{8}"$ strip, as mentioned previously, is used to mount the resistors a banana jack may be fastened to a piece of angle $\frac{1}{2}"$ wide.

Mount an SO-239 coaxial connector on the case opposite the meter before permanently mounting the load. Connect the center of the coaxial connector to the load with short piece of $\frac{3}{8}"$ copper strap connected under one of the fuse compartments.

Diode Gate Keying

Glen Benskin, K6ARQ

18233 Rancho Street
Tarzana, California

In his efforts to eliminate chirps, clicks and backwave in transmitter keying circuits the author has developed a fresh approach, diode gate keying.

Diode Gate Keying Circuit

HAVING fought the battle of chirps, clicks, and backwaves in transmitter keying circuits, with conventional oscillator keying, amplifier keying, differential keying, and combinations thereof, it was felt that a fresh approach to the problems of keying might be worthy of consideration. The keying circuit to be described was developed from a desire to eliminate some of the apparent disadvantages of these standard keying methods.

It was felt that the necessity of keying two or more tubes (as often as not, one of the keyed tubes being the oscillator) to obtain sufficient signal suppression to avoid backwave during the key-up interval, provides an interesting field for improvement. At frequencies normally used for a v.f.o., the grid-to-plate capacitance of vacuum tubes provides an a.c. path for the signal even though the tube is cut off. Although the very small grid-to-plate capacities listed in the tube specifications appear very attractive at first glance, by the time tube socket capacity, plus stray and wiring capacities have been included, some of the appeal is lost. Approximately twenty decibels of suppression is about all that can be expected per keyed stage.

It seemed logical to assume that if this capacity could be reduced, a considerable improvement in backwave suppression would result without keying the oscillator tube. If, at the same time, the keying circuit could be designed to minimize loading of the oscillator, the chirp problem would be eliminated automatically. That would leave only the problem of key clicks to contend with. With these objectives in mind, a brain-storming period was begun. Several ideas were considered and then discarded before deciding that a diode gating scheme held some promise. It was decided that vacuum tube diodes would solve little if anything. Silicon junction diodes with typical shunt capacitances of four to ten mmf didn't appear to be much better. However, germanium point contact diodes, which have typical shunt capacitances in the range of one-half to one mmf are especially suitable for this type of switching operation.

Although the 1N277 diode was used in this circuit, there is no reason why any one of the many other germanium point contact diodes readily available on the market at reasonable prices could not do the job just as well. The 1N67A, 1N68A, 1N89, 1N90, 1N95, 1N96, 1N97, 1N98, 1N99, 1N100, and 1N116 are all available at prices varying from thirty-nine cents to slightly over one dollar.

Diode Keying Circuit

The basic keying circuit is illustrated in fig. 1. Assuming that the resistance values have been properly chosen in the voltage dividers, it can be seen from the figure that when the switch is open CR_1 is reverse-biased and CR_2 is forward-biased. An a.c. signal applied to the input of this circuit meets with the high impedance of the reverse-biased diode CR_1 , which greatly attenuates this signal as measured at the common connection of CR_1 and CR_2 . In addition, this attenuated signal sees the low impedance path to ground provided by the forward-biased diode CR_2 , and the capacitor C_3 , which further attenuates the signal. Consequently, the output is virtually zero.

When the switch is closed (again assuming that the resistance values were properly chosen) CR_1 becomes forward-biased and CR_2 becomes

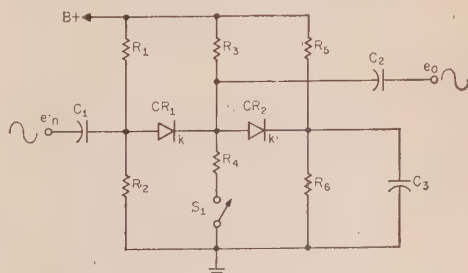


Fig. 1—Basic diode keying circuit. When CR_1 is forward biased and CR_2 back biased the input signal will appear at the output. Reverse the biasing with S_1 and the output will disappear.

reverse-biased. Now the a.c. signal applied to the input of the circuit sees a low impedance path between input and output and a high impedance path to ground. That's all there is to it, assuming that it will work.

Working Circuit

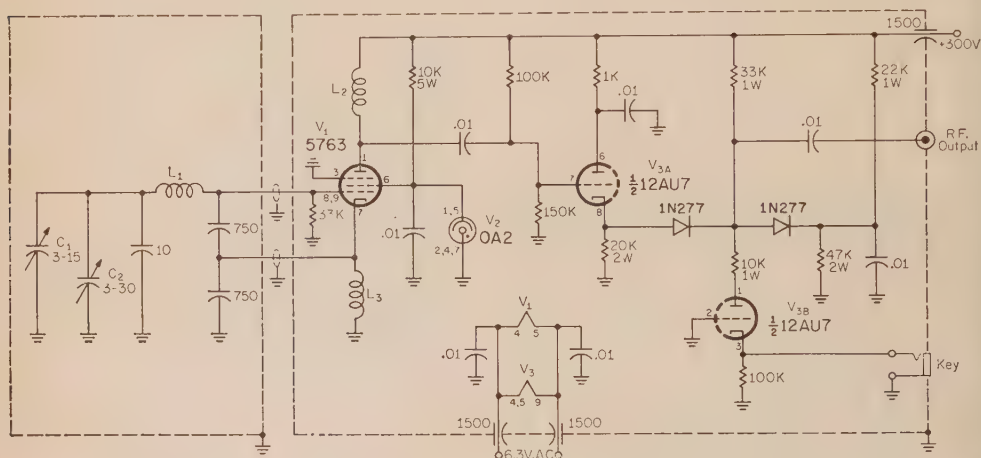
Figure 2 is a schematic diagram of a Clapp oscillator designed to operate over the frequency range of 6.65 to 7.5 megacycles followed by a cathode follower to minimize loading on the oscillator when the circuit is keyed. The other half of this twin-triode tube is used for keying, in place of the switch used in fig. 1, to remove high voltage from the key. The maximum voltage which appears at the key is sixteen volts and the maximum current which is handled by the key is about eight milliamperes.

volts peak-to-peak for the key-down condition and 0.1 volt peak-to-peak for the key-up condition. This represents a signal suppression of slightly over forty-four decibels. If this slight leakage signal during the key-up interval should prove annoying, its effect can be eliminated by applying negative bias slightly in excess of cutoff to the following stage.

Construction

Dashed lines have been used in fig. 2 to indicate separation of circuit components into compartments. This probably represents the minimum amount of shielding which would be effective. Better shielding would increase the backwave suppression, especially if the diodes of the gating circuit were separately compartmented.

It should be pointed out that the resistance



C₁—V.f.o. tuning, Bud LC 1641, 3-15 mmf.
C₂—Bandset, Johnson 20M11, 2.7-19.6 mmf

L₁—32 μ B&W Miniductor #3019
L₂, L₃—R.F.C. 2.5 mh @ 75 mc.

Fig. 2—A combined oscillator and keyer circuit. The oscillator, V₁, is a Clapp circuit operating from 6.65 to 7.5 mc. A cathode follower, V_{3A}, minimizes the loading on the oscillator and V_{3B} is the keying tube and acts as does S₁ in fig. 1. All circuits must be thoroughly shielded as shown and improved isolation may be had by separating CR₁ and CR₂ by shielding.

Frequency Shift and Drift

A breadboard model of this circuit was monitored for several hours using a Tektronix oscilloscope (model 535) and a Beckman/Berkeley counter (model 7370) to determine frequency drift versus time, and frequency shift due to keying. Consequently it was possible to monitor the frequency to seven significant figures. At intervals, during the period of monitoring of frequency drift, the circuit was keyed to determine the frequency shift. None was observable. The frequency drift from turn-on time to five minutes after turn-on was approximately four hundred cycles per second, and after thirty minutes of warm-up time had elapsed the total frequency drift over a period of four hours measured out at less than six hundred cycles per second. Thus the long term stability was measured to be less than one hundred parts per million. The output signal measured with 33K loading was sixteen

values chosen for the voltage divider network were selected to provide operation of the gating circuit compatible with the signal amplitude expected from a 5763 Clapp oscillator. If an oscillator with greater output were to be substituted it might become necessary to alter these values to insure adequate reverse biasing of the diodes. However, care should be taken to ensure that the reverse voltage ratings of the diodes to be used are not exceeded. The 1N277 is capable of withstanding 125 volts reverse bias, but some of the types previously mentioned are rated as low as 60 volts. A simpler solution might be to reduce the signal amplitude with a divider which would also lighten the loading on the oscillator.

An effort was made to use the pentode section of a 6U8A in place of the 5763 oscillator and the triode section in place of the first half of the 12AU7 for the cathode follower, but difficulty was encountered. Signal suppression for the

[Continued on page 114]

Mobile Selectivity

Nat Gold, K1MIA

308 La Grange Street
Newton, Mass.

A simple outboard filter that may be connected between a converter and broadcast receiver to improve the selectivity.

AFTER a very short period of mobile operation on the 75 meter band, it was very obvious to me that the selectivity of an auto receiver was incapable of coping with the bedlam that is normal on this band. I began looking for ways to increase the selectivity of the tuneable converter-auto receiver combination. Since I dislike tearing into a receiver, I concentrated on devices that could be connected between the 1430 kc output of the converter and the input of the auto receiver.

Q Multipliers

My first attempt consisted of the well known Q multiplier modified to operate at 1430 kc. This resulted in some improvement, but had the following disadvantages:

1. The Q multiplier was very unstable when set for maximum selectivity, even with regulated B+.
2. It would not give a flat bandpass with steep skirts.
3. The ringing characteristics of the Q multiplier stretched out the pulses from ignition noise, reducing the effectiveness of the limiter.

Crystal Filters

When I became disgusted with the instability of the Q multiplier I decided to build a crystal filter for 1430 kc. Not having a balanced transformer for this frequency, it was necessary to devise a crystal filter that did not require a balanced input. The circuit for this filter is shown in fig. 1. Conventional crystal filter circuits use a push pull transformer and a balancing capacitor to balance out the effect of the capacitance of the

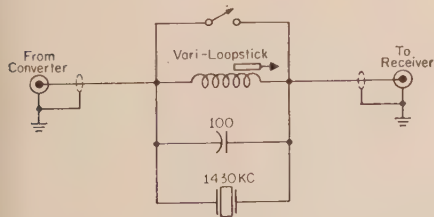


Fig. 1—Circuit of the first crystal filter tried. The circuit had to be discarded because it was too sharp for phone work. By changing the coil and crystal to 455 kc components this circuit can be used to sharpen the bandwidth of an inexpensive receiver for c.w. work.

crystal holder. In this circuit, the capacitance of the crystal holder becomes part of a parallel tuned trap centered on the crystal frequency. The series resonance of the crystal effectively short circuits the trap for a very narrow band of frequencies. This filter also passes frequencies that are far removed from the crystal frequency, but the selectivity characteristics of any receiver are adequate to take care of this.

The crystal filter did not have the first disadvantage of the Q multiplier, instability, but it did have the other two disadvantages. In addition, the selectivity was a little too sharp for good phone reception. This circuit may be used in a low priced receiver with a 455 kc. crystal and a different coil for sharp c.w. selectivity without using a special i.f. transformer. In this case, the filter should go between the secondary of the first i.f. transformer and the grid of the first i.f. tube. The selectivity will be much too sharp for phone reception but ideal for c.w.

Half Lattice Filter

My third attempt at mobile selectivity was the half lattice crystal filter shown in fig. 2. The core for the coil came from a permeability tuned 455 kc i.f. can. One of the ferrite tuning slugs was

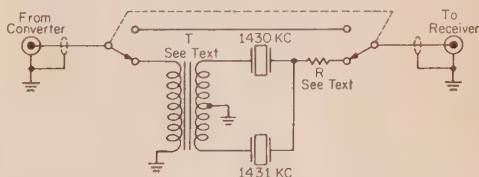


Fig. 2—The circuit of the half lattice crystal filter that was used. The transformer is made from a 455 kc K-Tran i.f. as explained in the text and the value of R must be determined experimentally as directed.

used as a cup core. A disk was cut from the other tuning slug and was glued over the open end of the first core after the coils were in place. The coils were made of wire taken from the i.f. can coils.

The secondary consists of 50 bifilar wound turns (100 turns total). The primary consists of 100 turns wound directly over the secondary. The coils may be wound on an ordinary drinking straw and then slipped into the core. This cup core coil gives close coupling comparable to a toroid core coil, and is much easier to obtain. It acts as an untuned r.f. transformer.

[Continued on page 110]

The Heath DX-100B, 1961 Version

William I. Orr*, W6SAI

This 1961 conversion improves the operation of the DX-100 on 160 meters, increases the stability of the 6146 amplifier stage and reduces TVI-producing harmonics generated in the exciter circuits. The changes are simple to make, inexpensive to do, and result in smoother, TVI-free operation, particularly on 15 and 10 meters. Each conversion may be done independent of the others, so you can do all of them, or just the one that fits your particular operating need.

THERE'S no doubt about it! The Heath DX-100 and the DX-100B are mighty popular pieces of ham radio equipment! You'll hear plenty of them on the air, and if you are the owner of either version of a DX-100, you will be interested in this article describing some simple circuit changes that makes the transmitter even better than before!

Improved 160 Meter Operation

The plate tank circuit of the parallel 6146 amplifier stage can be easily modified for improved 160 meter operation. The problem to be solved on this band is to match the r.f. plate load impedance of the amplifier stage (approximately 2000 ohms) to the impedance of a typical 160 meter antenna system. Ideally, the antenna should have an input impedance of 52 ohms in order to match the popular RG-8/U feedline and the input impedance of the DX-100 transmitter.

One-sixty meter antennas, however, are stubborn "critters" and usually exhibit disgustingly low values of input impedance, running all the way from 50 ohms or so, down to one or two ohms. In general, the lower the input impedance of the antenna, the more difficult it is to match it to the plate circuit of the transmitter, and the greater are the losses in the matching network.

In addition, there are circuit requirements that specify certain values of inductance and capacity in the plate circuit of the amplifier for proper harmonic suppression and proper operation. As is, the DX-100 is skating on pretty thin ice on 160 meters, and the tank circuit is certainly not optimized for best results. In fact, operational tests on 160 showed the DX-100 to be extremely cranky and proper loading could not be achieved when operating with several

types of common antennas. Some, casual slide rule work, and pencil scratching confirmed the notion that theoretical optimum tank circuit conditions could not be met, merely because there was not enough room in the transmitter cabinet for the extra capacitors needed to properly resonate the circuit. A bit more figuring showed that nearly optimum conditions could be achieved by removing sufficient turns from the 160 meter amplifier plate coil so as to establish resonance at the low end of the chosen 160 meter band segment with the plate tuning capacitor 95% meshed. At the same time, extra loading capacitance must be added to the pi-network output circuit to permit matching antenna loads in the region of 30-50 ohms. For loads of lower impedance (short Marconi antennas, etc.) additional extra capacitance must be added to the circuit, external to the transmitter. Here is how this modification is accomplished:

- 1—The 160-meter auxiliary plate coil (part No. 40-59) is removed from beneath the center section of the DX-100. The outer wire of the coil is then unsoldered and five turns are unwound from the coil. The wire is cut at this point, tinned and resoldered to the terminal. The coil is returned to its original position. The amplifier plate circuit will now resonate at 1950 kc with the tuning capacitor 95% meshed. (If operation is desired in the 1800 kc portion of the band, it is not necessary to remove any turns from the coil and it is left untouched as this portion of the modification is unnecessary.)
- 2—The next step is to connect a 1200 mmf, 50-volt mica capacitor in parallel with the 126 mmf three section variable antenna loading capacitor. This will provide sufficient extra capacitance to load most medium impedance antennas. The capacitor may be mounted under the chassis between the "cold" end of

*Manager, Amateur Service Department
Eitel-McCullough, Inc., San Carlos, California

the 160 meter coil and ground (fig. 1). The capacitor is automatically switched out of the circuit when the 160 meter band is not in use. When extremely low impedance antennas are used, a second identical loading capacitor may be placed across the terminals of the coaxial antenna receptacle.

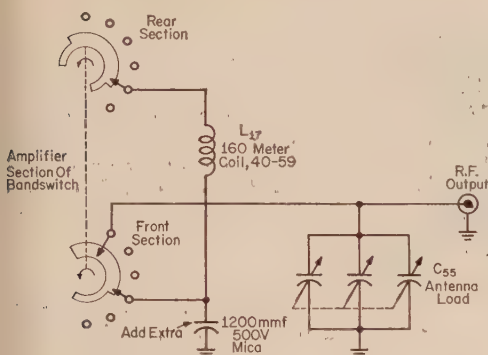


Fig. 1—A one-sixty loading capacitor may be mounted between the "cold" terminal of the 160 meter coil (terminal nearest 6146 sockets) and the ground bus of the variable loading capacitor. Refer to page 2 of the DX-100 manual for the complete schematic.

Improved Power Amplifier Stability

The 6146 is a high efficiency, high gain tube that will perform well in the v.h.f. region. Accordingly, it will oscillate with vigor if the circuit design is such that unwanted v.h.f. resonant loops appear in the grid, plate, or cathode leads circuits. True, the DX-100B amplifier stage has plenty of ground terminal points around the tube sockets, but some of the grounding leads are quite long, and others run to the socket grounding ears, whose grounding efficiency is questionable in the v.h.f. region.

It is possible to improve this situation by removing the small amplifier sub-chassis and replacing all ground leads with ultra-short, low impedance ground connections. This is easy to do, provided you don't lose all your marbles getting the sub-chassis out of the transmitter! Here's how you go about this task:

1—You'll have to remove the 160 meter coil, and loosen the bolts holding the band-switch to the vertical portion of the amplifier sub-chassis. Detach the filament and bias leads, the B plus lead and the wire-wound resistors, the excitation lead and the B plus lead above the sub-chassis, and remove the 6146 tubes from the sockets. You are now ready to remove the sub-chassis.

2—Believe it or not, this can be done! Once the 160 meter coil is out of the way, and the long 6-32 bolts and spacers are removed, you'll find that by twisting and turning the sub-chassis, it will mysteriously lift out of its niche. Amateurs who are adept at removing olives from bottles will have no trouble with this chore.

3—With the sub-chassis on your work bench, you must now remove all the various ground wires roaming about the sub-chassis. To do a ship-shape job, strip the underside right down to the components and clean the socket terminals of excess solder. Be careful not to injure the fine wires of the grid r.f. choke.

The first step is to securely solder the two 6146 socket retainer rings to the sub-chassis. You will note that the rings actually contact the sub-chassis at the two ends which are affixed by the mounting bolts. The retainer ring, in effect, is a one-turn loop mounted parallel to the sub-chassis at two points. The inductance of the halves of the loop will be in series with any ground connection made to the loop. As soon as you solder a wire to the grounding "ears" of the socket, you are automatically placing this unwanted loop in series with your ground terminal. Since we want to use the "ears" as ground terminals, we must eliminate the loop.

4—The socket retainer ring can be soldered directly to the plated sub-chassis with the aid of a large, clean soldering iron. Use plenty of heat and rosin core solder. Allow the solder to flow into the seam between the socket ring and the sub-chassis. It is not necessary to make a perfect seam all around the ring, spot soldering beneath the grounding "ears" will do the job. I found that three spots of solder on each side of the socket ring did the job in fine fashion. The loop is now effectively shorted to the sub-chassis.

5—The next step is to ground all the socket pins that should be grounded. These pin numbers are: (on the socket nearest the grid choke) 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8. On the socket furthest from the choke, ground these pins: 1, 4, 6, 7, and 8. Note that the grounded filament pins are reversed on each socket. Grounded pins should be bent down flush against the ceramic material of the socket. A few of the grounded pins will touch the grounding ears and should be soldered directly to them. Other pins will miss the ears, and will not quite reach the grounding ring. A short, heavy piece of bare copper wire may be soldered from the pin to the ring. It should be made as short as possible. When you have completed this task, the grounded socket pins are *really* grounded!

6—Each "hot" filament pin is now bypassed to ground by means of a .01 mf ceramic capacitor mounted directly between pin and socket. Cut the capacitor leads as short as possible so the capacitor is jammed between the socket pin and the mounting ring. Finally connect these "hot" pins in parallel with a short piece of insulated wire running from socket to socket.

7—The screen terminals (pin 3) of each socket are now treated in the same fashion as the filament pins. Bypass each screen pin on each socket to ground with a .001 mf, one kv ceramic disc capacitor. Use as little lead length on each capacitor as is possible, without permitting the capacitor to short out against the

chassis or the socket. Connect the screen terminals in parallel with a short length of insulated wire.

- 8—The grid wiring can be completed now. Run a piece of #14 solid tinned wire through a free hole of each #5 socket pin and over to the terminal of the grid choke nearest the



large sub-chassis flange (see illustration). Next, connect the small 47 mmf mica padding capacitor from the grid circuit to ground. An easy way to do this is to run a second length of tinned wire from one socket ground to the other, parallel with and below the grid wire. The mica capacitor can be connected between these two wires at their midpoint.

- 9—The B plus bypass capacitor is affixed between the ceramic feed-through terminal and a ground pin of one of the sockets as shown in the illustration. Check all your wiring as shown in fig. 2 and you are ready to place the sub-chassis back in the DX-100.

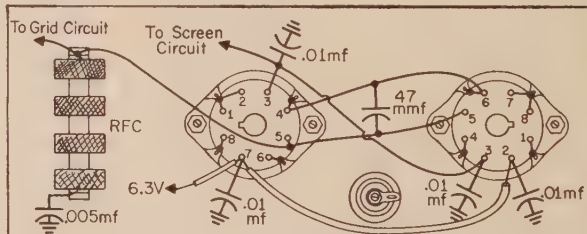
- 1—Remove the transmitter from the cabinet and remove the 6146 tubes from the sockets.
- 2—Observe the partial schematic of fig. 3. This illustrates the modified pi-network coupling arrangement between the 5763 buffer stage and the final power amplifier grid circuit. The proper phase-shift is developed across

The .001 mf, 2 kv plate blocking capacitor is moved from the top of the chassis and relocated under the chassis. It may be seen at the right, connected between the B plus feedthrough insulator and a ground pin of the 6146 socket.

the buffer coil so that a small value of capacitance placed between the plate of the 5763 and the plates of the 6146's will suffice to neutralize the amplifier stage.

- 3—A convenient termination for this capacitor (which will take the form of a short length of solid wire) is the free, rear stator terminal of the buffer tuning capacitor (see fig. 4). The wire is soldered to the terminal and will pass through a hole drilled in the shield plate between the two stages.
- 4—Drill the shield plate as shown in the diagram. This operation can be done from the rear of the transmitter, making sure that the drill

Fig. 2—Pictorial representation of the sub-chassis wiring at the 6146 sockets.



This is like trying to get a number eight foot into a number four shoe. The ladies do it every day, so you should be able to do it too! It can be done, so don't despair! Once the sub-chassis is back in position, bolt it firmly in place, and reconnect the filament and bias leads, the B plus lead to the wire-wound resistors, the excitation lead, and the B plus lead above the chassis. Check all wiring, and if O.K., your modification is complete. Plug the 6146's back in the sockets, and you are ready to tune up and go on the air.

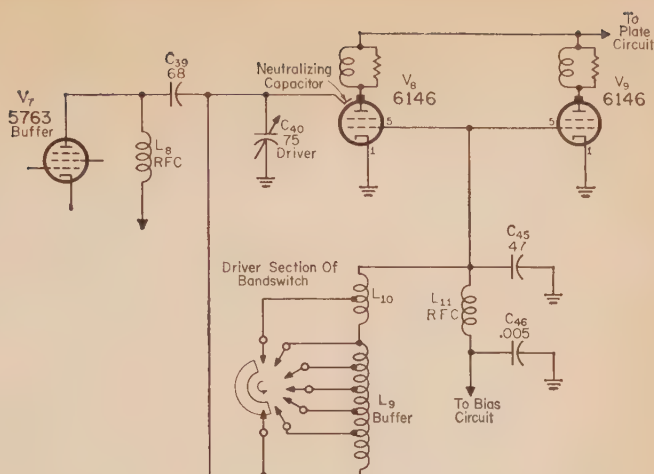
Neutralizing the Power Amplifier Stage

It is a smart idea to neutralize the 6146 amplifier stage if operation is contemplated on 10 and 15 meters. Transmitter tuning is greatly simplified, the excitation level is increased, grid current is stabilized, and overall operation is smoother. The following steps are a modification of the original neutralization process developed by Lloyd Jones, W6DOB. This is how you do it:

chips do not spread throughout the equipment. Insert a rubber insulating grommet in the hole.

- 5—Clip a piece of #12 tinned copper wire about 2 3/4 inches long, pass it through the grommet from the rear of the transmitter and solder the end firmly to the stator terminal of the buffer tuning capacitor. Replace the 6146 tubes in their sockets.
- 6—As a starter, bend the wire so that it points directly at the plate choke of the amplifier stage. Center the wire in the grommet so that it does not touch the walls. You are now ready to neutralize the transmitter.
- 7—Turn on the transmitter; tune and load it in a normal fashion on either the 10 or 15 meter band. Observe when you detune the AMPLIFIER TUNING capacitor either side of resonance the grid current of the 6146 stage swoops wildly up and down. With plate tuning capacitor one side of resonance, the grid current is abnormally low; on the other side of reso-

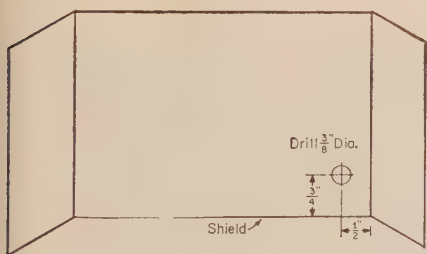
Fig. 3 — Diagram illustrating the neutralizing circuit for the final amplifier of the DX-100.



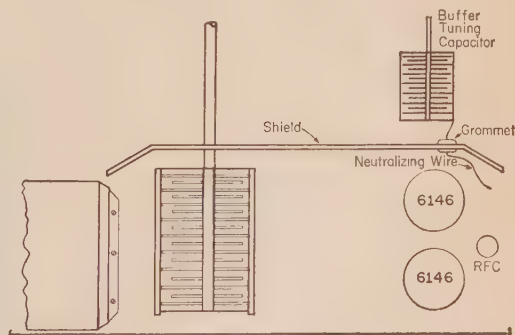
nance it is abnormally high. Make this test quickly, as you can damage the 6146s by running them out of resonance for any great period of time. You need only detune the circuit a very small amount. Practice doing this with the meter switch set in the PLATE CURRENT position. See how far you have to detune the capacitor to bring the plate current up to 250 ma. Switch to GRID CURRENT indication on the multi-meter. Now you are ready to neutralize. Do not detune the plate current a greater amount than 250 ma, and only detune long enough to observe the action of the grid current.

mistake, however, of assuming that the buffer coil is "cold." The buffer plate supply is taken from the low voltage power supply, so there is still r.f. voltage in the buffer coil, plus a hundred or so volts of negative bias. Adjust the position of the neutralizing wire with a wooden rod or insulated screwdriver and play safe!

- 9—Once you have found the proper point for the position of the neutralizing wire you can forget it until you change 6146's. It may then be necessary to touch up the neutralization a bit for the new tube.



(A) Rear View



(B) Top View

Fig. 4-A: Location of the hole in the interstage shield which permits the neutralizing lead to perform its function. Insert a rubber grommet in the 3/8" hole. B: Solder neutralizing wire to the stator of the buffer tuning capacitor. See text for adjustment.

- 8—You should now adjust the position of the neutralizing wire so that the grid current remains reasonably constant when you detune the final amplifier plate circuit from resonance. It may rise and drop slowly during the detuning operation, but the wild swoops and swings of the meter can be "ironed out" by proper adjustment of the wire in relation to the envelope of the nearest 6146. You'll find that the wire will probably take the position shown in the illustration. IMPORTANT! Make sure that you turn off the high voltage between adjustments! This will let the 6146's cool off a bit between trials. *Don't* make the

A Simple De-TVI Measure for the DX-100

The DX-100 transmitters show a wee bit of TVI when operated on 10 and 15 meters in an area of low television signal strength. You'll notice, too, that when you go on c.w., the TVI increases manifold. In fact, if you have nearby TV viewers, operation of the DX-100 on 10 meter c.w. is almost equivalent to committing hari-kiri!

The sudden increase in TVI when c.w. operation is attempted provides the clue to this trouble. The key jack is "hot" with harmonics and r.f. that is easily radiated by the key leads. A

few bypass capacitors, placed at strategic spots will easily cure this difficulty! You will need three .01 mf, 600 volt disc ceramic capacitors for the job. Let's go to work.

- 1—Remove the DX-100 from the cabinet and up-end it. Notice the key jack is connected, via an air-wound r.f. choke to a terminal of

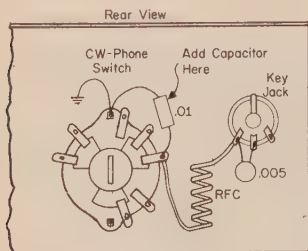


Fig. 5—Anti-TVI capacitor is placed between the arm (#9) of the PHONE-C.W. switch and ground. Refer to pictorial drawing #2 in the DX-100 instruction manual.

- the c.w. FONE transfer switch (see fig. 5). The key jack end of this choke is bypassed with a disc ceramic, but the switch end of the choke has no capacitor to ground. This is where you place one of the three .01 mf capacitors. Cut the capacitor leads short and connect it between the switch terminal holding the choke and one of the stud bolts (ground) of the switch.
- 2—The remaining two capacitors will be placed inside the v.f.o. cabinet. Remove the bolts holding the U-shaped shield of the v.f.o. box, and lift the shield clear of the v.f.o. This will expose the v.f.o. wiring, and the terminal strips at the bottom of the v.f.o. enclosure. The capacitors will be placed on these terminal strips.
- 3—The "hot" leads to be bypassed are the ones from the cathode (blue) and plate circuit (red) of the 6AU6 oscillator tube. Clip the leads of the capacitors to the proper length, slip short sections of insulating "spaghetti" over the leads and solder the capacitors be-

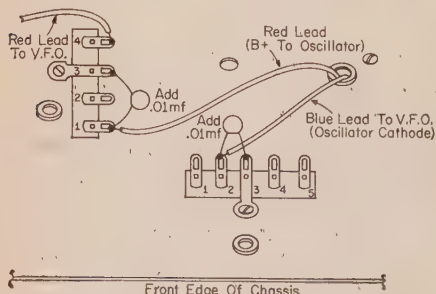


Fig. 6—Another anti-TVI measure is the installation of a .01 mf capacitor between lugs 2 and 3 of the 5 lug terminal strip located in the v.f.o. compartment, and another .01 mf capacitor between lugs 1 and 3 of the 4 lug terminal strip. Make sure the capacitors leads do not short to adjacent lugs or other wires.

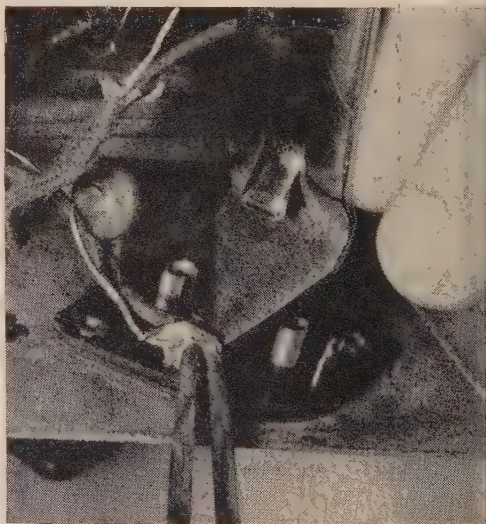
tween the proper terminals and the ground lug located at one end of the strips (fig. 6). Finally, replace the U-shaped shield over the oscillator. This completes the modification.

A Final Word

Properly operated, the 6146 tubes in the DX-100 will last a long time, even though they are operated at maximum input. A few words of friendly advice, however, are not out of order.

- 1—Hold the grid current below four milliamperes at all times. During the c.w. operation, be sure to watch grid current when the high voltage switch is turned off. The buffer stages continue to operate, supplying excitation to the final amplifier, and grid current can soar to excessive values when the amplifier stages are not operating. If the key is open when the plate switch is off, the exciter stages are disabled and no grid current flows. However, with no key plugged in the equipment, the self-shorting key jack permits the exciter to operate even when the high voltage is turned off. If you are a phone man, take care to monitor grid current when the PHONE C.W. switch is in the c.w. position and no key is in the jack.
- 2—Keep your resonant plate current to 200 milliamperes on phone and 220 milliamperes on c.w. for maximum tube life. Make sure you are in resonance at all times.

Ham Hints



Eye Opener For Solder Lugs

Ever try to thread a wire through the eye of a soldering lug only to find that the eye was clogged with solder? Next time, melt the solder with an iron and poke the clogged eye open with the sharp point of a puncture type can opener. File the point just a little sharper to get it to fit the smallest size eye.

Understanding Very-High-Frequency Antennas

Part III, Conclusion*

Stanley Leinwoll

33 Cranston Road
Franklin Park, New Jersey

A HIGHLY directional radiation pattern similar to the beam effects obtainable with a Yagi-type array of elements can be achieved by use of a metallic reflector in conjunction with a single dipole.

The size, shape, and composition of the reflector may vary considerably, depending on the materials available, antenna requirements, etc. Because the size of a dipole element operating in the high frequency range is relatively large, sheet reflectors are never used for short wave antennas. However, since they can be easily and economically built for operation in the v.h.f. bands, their use in these ranges is quite common.

The simplest type of reflector is the flat sheet mounted in back of a single driven dipole element, as shown in fig. 1a. The gain obtainable with such a system is of the order of 7 db. This gain figure can be increased by bending the flat sheet to form a cylindrical parabolic section, as shown in fig. 1b. The dipole element is located at the focal point of the parabola.

The purpose of the reflector is to intercept radiation energy and re-radiate it in a more desirable direction, similar to the way a mirror

Parts I and II of this series appeared in the January and February issues respectively.

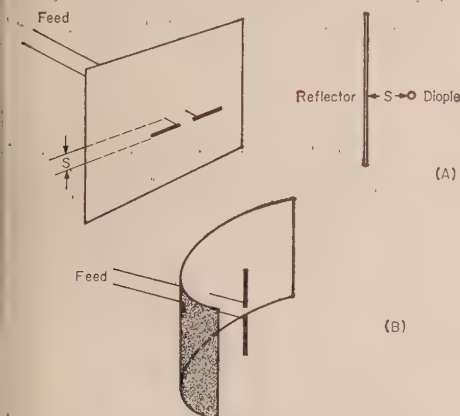


Fig. 1—Two typical reflector type antennas. In (a), the ordinary flat sheet reflector is shown, while in (b), bending the sheet to form a parabolic section produces a cylindrical parabola.

intercepts and re-radiates light.

Perhaps the simplest and most practical of the reflector type antennas is the corner reflector, shown in fig. 2. This antenna is highly directive in the plane perpendicular to the plane contain-

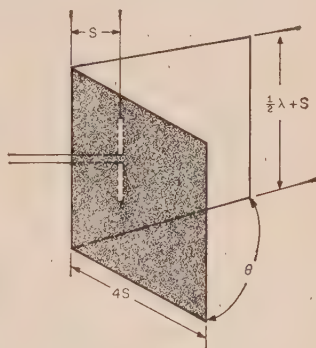


Fig. 2—Corner reflector. The relationships between the measurements shown are discussed in the text.

ing the dipole element, and running through the center of the reflector. It consists of two flat sheets forming an angle ranging anywhere from 45 to 90 degrees. The dipole element lies in the plane bisecting the angle formed by the sheets, and is parallel to the line of intersection of the sheets.

The corner reflector can give extremely high directivity, as well as a gain ranging from approximately 9 to 13 db, depending on the distance between the dipole element and the reflector apex, the angle of the reflector sheets, and the material making up the reflector.

The table below gives values of gain and radiation resistance for typical spacings and apex angles most commonly found in corner reflector-type antennas.

| Apex Angle | Spacing in Wavelengths | | |
|------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 45° | 13.5 db 7 ohms | 13.5 db 18 ohms | 13.5 db 40 ohms |
| 60° | 11.9 db 25 ohms | 11.8 db 60 ohms | 11.5 db 100 ohms |
| 90° | 9.5 db 80 ohms | 9.5 db 130 ohms | 9.0 db 165 ohms |

The corner reflector antenna can be centered by bringing the transmission line in along a line bisecting the apex angle of the reflector, and running it in perpendicular to the dipole element.

Maximum directivity and gain can be achieved by making the dimensions of the reflector large enough in terms of the wavelength. In fig. 2, for example, the side h should be $\lambda/2 + s$, and the length l should be $4s$.

The material making up the reflector can be either solid or a screen or grid type arrangement, consisting of chicken wire or parallel rods. Whatever the material used, the spacing between wires should, at most, be 0.15 wavelength but preferably smaller.

Spacing dimensions are important because the way in which energy is reflected will depend on the smoothness of the reflector. The word smoothness is defined as the ratio between the size of the irregularities in the reflecting surface and the wavelength of the incident energy. If the spacing between wires is any greater than 0.15 wavelength, considerable scattering will occur, resulting in a significant decrease in the efficiency of radiated energy.

The use of a screen or grid for the reflector offers the advantage of a much lighter reflector than would be the case if a solid reflecting surface were used. In addition, this type of surface offers considerably less resistance to wind than a solid.

The above table shows that as the apex angle of the reflector is increased, gain increases. Practically speaking, however, 45° is about the smallest apex angle usable without making the dimensions of the reflector prohibitive. This is so because as the apex angle is decreased, the distance s must be increased to keep resistance losses down. Since the side length of the reflector depends on s , the greater this becomes the greater the side length.

The corner reflector can be mounted so that the dipole element is either horizontal or vertical. Where horizontal polarization is required, the orientation of the reflector is such as to give maximum directivity in the vertical plane, and vice-versa.

The Paraboloid or "Dish" Antenna

A refinement over the cylindrical parabola, or the corner reflector can be achieved by placing a dipole element at the focal point of a reflector which has been shaped in the form of a rotational parabola, or "dish" as shown in fig. 3.

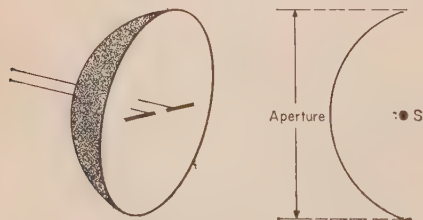


Fig. 3—Rotational parabola or "dish."

Such an arrangement, which can be mounted either horizontally or vertically, provides considerably higher gain, as well as directivity, in both the horizontal and vertical planes, than the other types of reflector antenna.

Theoretically, an isotropic radiator placed at the focus of a paraboloid whose dimensions are large in terms of the wavelength would convert spherical waves to a plane wave on reflection.

This theoretical situation can only be approached in actual practice since the dipole is not an isotropic radiator, and the inside of the dish is not uniformly illuminated. As a result, the beam is elliptical rather than circular, and somewhat broader than would theoretically be expected.

Design of a dish antenna is often highly complex, and in order to obtain optimum gain and directivity in some instances, the dipole element because it is not an isotropic radiator, must sometimes be located somewhat removed from the mathematical focus of the paraboloid.

Long Wire Antennas

Long wire antennas consist of single wires longer than one-half wavelength, in which the current in adjacent half wave sections is 180° out of phase.

As a result of these phase differences, there is no longer a null off the ends of the antenna, and considerable radiation occurs in the direction of the long wire.

In addition, the fields produced in individual half wave sections combine to produce radiation in a direction that is broadside to the long wire. Consequently, the resulting lobes of maximum radiation are neither in the direction of the long wire, nor perpendicular to it, but instead at some acute angle with respect to the wire. The angle depends on the length of the wire in terms of wavelength at the operating frequency.

We have already pointed out that the electrical and physical length of an antenna are not the same, depending on its dimensions, and on end-effect. A convenient method of determining the length, in feet, of a single wavelength, for any given frequency, in megacycles, is:

$$L(\text{ft.}) = \frac{492 (H - 0.05)}{f (\text{mc})}$$

where H is the number of half waves on the antenna. For example, for a length of two full wavelengths, H would be four. For a frequency of 144 mc, the length in feet would be equal to

$$L(\text{ft.}) = \frac{492 (4 - 0.05)}{144}$$

$$L = \frac{492 \times 3.95}{144} = 13.5 \text{ feet}$$

As the antenna length is increased, the lobe of maximum radiation decreases in width. As the lobe narrows, more and more energy is concentrated in a smaller sector, and power gain increases. An antenna length of four wavelengths

For example, results in a power gain of approximately two. Doubling this length increases the power gain to 4.3.

Increasing antenna length also brings the lobes of maximum radiation closer to the direction of the antenna wire. The angle between the wire and a line running through the center of the lobe is the angle of maximum radiation. At an antenna length of two wavelengths, for example, this angle is 36 degrees. At four wavelengths it is 25 degrees, and at eight wavelengths, 15 degrees.

The presence of the ground under an antenna modifies its radiation pattern, depending on the distance, in wavelengths, between the antenna and the ground.

V Antenna

The V antenna consists of two long (in terms of wavelength) wires, arranged to form a V, and fed at its apex with currents of opposite polarity. Figure 4a shows a V antenna and indicates the

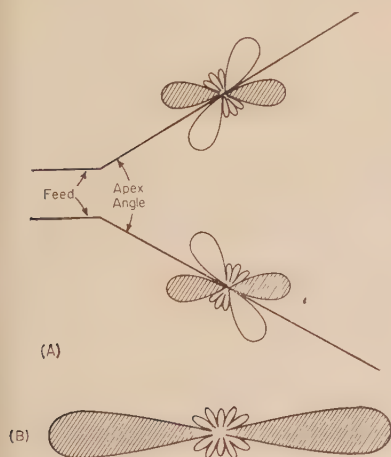


Fig. 4—V antenna patterns. The individual patterns in (a) combine with the shaded lobes adding and the others cancelling, to produce the pattern in (b). Pattern (b) is bi-directional and has a higher gain than the individual patterns of the long wires in (a).

major lobes in each wire. These combine in such a way as to produce maximum radiation along a line bisecting the apex angle of the V, as shown in fig. 4b.

As in the case of the single long wire, the greater the antenna length, the greater the gain and directivity. Since the radiation from two wires combines to form a single pattern, the gain of the V antenna is approximately twice that of a single wire antenna. For a leg length of two wavelengths, for example, a power gain of close to three is achieved. At four wavelengths, there is a power gain of five.

At a particular wavelength, the optimum apex angle of the V antenna can be determined by taking twice the angle of maximum radiation when a single wire at the same wavelength is used.

As leg length is varied, the optimum apex angle changes, as shown in the table below:

| Leg Length (λ) | Optimum Apex Angle |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 90° |
| 2 | 70° |
| 3 | 58° |
| 4 | 50° |
| 6 | 40° |
| 8 | 35° |
| 10 | 33° |

The optimum vertical angle of radiation depends on the length of the antenna legs as well as its height above ground.

Increasing either leg length, or height above ground will generally lower the optimum vertical angle.

For an antenna height above ground of $\frac{1}{2}\lambda$, the optimum vertical angle of radiation for a V-type antenna varies from 31° at one wavelength long, to 20° at 4 wavelengths, and 13° at ten wavelengths.

Unidirectional V

The V antenna can be made unidirectional by connecting non-inductive resistors of about 500 ohms between the far end of each leg of the V and ground, as shown in fig. 5. Since the resistors

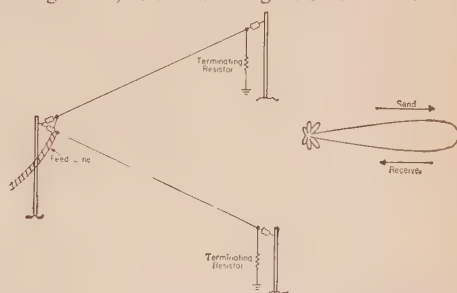


Fig. 5—The unidirectional V antenna, showing terminating resistors and the radiation pattern produced by this type antenna.

must be able to dissipate about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the power applied to the antenna, they must go to a good ground.

In the case of a terminated V, the leg lengths need no longer be multiples of a half-wavelength, since no standing waves now exist on the antenna. The maximum radiation in a terminated V occurs in the direction of the resistors, toward the mouth of the V antenna, with radiation in the opposite direction being largely suppressed.

Power gains approximately twice those obtained by the non-terminated antenna, can be obtained by use of terminating resistors.

Rhombic Antenna

The rhombic antenna, shown in fig. 6, represents the highest development of the long wire antenna. As in the case of the terminated V, the rhombic antenna radiates best at some angle to the plane containing the antenna, and in the di-

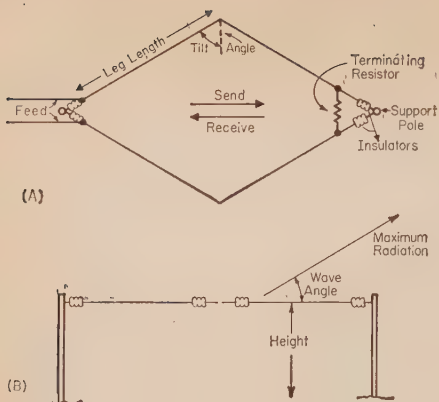


Fig. 6—The ultimate in long wire antennas, the terminated rhombic, showing wave and tilt angles in side and top views.

rection of the terminating resistor. The angle between the optimum vertical angle of radiation and the plane containing the antenna is called the wave angle. The tilt angle is one half the angle made by the two adjacent legs of the antenna.

One of the chief advantages of the rhombic antenna is its broad frequency characteristics, making it non-critical in so far as operation and adjustment are concerned. Although there are some changes in gain, directivity, and characteristic impedance that occur as the frequency is changed, the changes are generally small, with a frequency range of as much as 4 to 1 being obtainable with excellent results. This makes it possible to operate a rhombic over more than one v.h.f. band. For example, operation on 10 and 6 meters, with good results in both bands, is possible. The rhombic lends itself even better to operation in the 6 and 2 meter bands, since an almost perfect 3 to 1 harmonic relationship exists between bands.

The chief disadvantage of the rhombic antenna is its size, with a fairly large site being required. If each leg is made only one or two wavelengths long at the lowest operating frequency, for example, then an antenna operating on 6 meters would be a minimum of 30 to 35 feet long. Since the high gain and directivity obtainable with rhombic antennas would require leg lengths up to 10 or 12 wavelengths long, it can be seen that in general fairly large sites are required.

Most rhombics are built with the legs parallel to the ground. Adjacent sides of the antenna are fed with currents of opposite polarity producing horizontally polarized radiation as shown in fig. 7a, which combine as shown in fig. 7b.

As leg lengths are increased, gain increases, while horizontal beam width and the optimum vertical angle decrease.

The gain of a rhombic is considerably greater than of any other long wire system, with power gains varying from approximately 2.5 at one wavelength, to 11.2 at four wavelengths, and 22.4 at eight wavelengths.

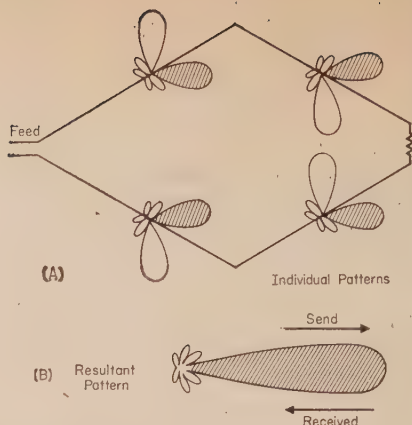


Fig. 7—Individual radiation patterns of a terminated rhombic antenna. The unshaded patterns cancel while the shaded patterns combine to produce the resultant shown in (b).

Using TV Antennas

Since the range of frequencies in the TV bands coincides closely with the amateur v.h.f. bands, a great many commercially available TV antennas can be used in amateur work with little or no modification.

A beam antenna, for example, designed for channel 2 operation (57.5 mc) can be used without any modification, although lengthening the elements by approximately 10% will improve its performance.

Similarly, there are available other Yagi and corner-reflector type TV antennas which can be adapted for use on 50, 144, and 220 mc.

As with all such antenna systems however, the range of frequencies over which such an antenna can operate efficiently is quite limited.



"—and another thing—it's a perfect location for antennas!"

ONE MAN'S FAMILY

Of Antennas

by Vic Clark, W4KFC

RFD1, Clifton, Virginia

"QTH, HR, OM, is on a hill in the country!"
Lives there a ham with soul so dead, that he hasn't earned for a spot meeting that description?

The classic hypothesis of a rural hilltop with "a clear shot in all directions," materializes for all too few of us, as the vision fades before the more practical aspects of life . . . earning a living, raising a crop of harmonics and attempting to conform, in general, to the accepted patterns of society . . . (often difficult enough for the species infected with the ham virus!)

So, except for the fortunate hams who are forethoughted enough to be born and raised in the boon-ocks, most of us are to be found pursuing our hobby in an unfriendly environment of power lines, V. birdie-factories and zoning restrictions. It is worthy of more than just a passing note, therefore, when one of the clan casts off the traditional fetters and transforms the reverie into reality.

Meet Len Chertok, W3GRF, a Washington, D. C. amateur, who dreamed of a lofty ham sanctuary far from the city, and then proceeded to create one from a comparative wilderness. His remarkable station is the product of tremendous fixity of purpose, careful planning and hard work. It would seem to establish a high water mark for what one ham can achieve in assembling an effective DX factory—starting with only an idea.

Brief Biography

Len, by way of further introduction, was first licensed at the age of 15 and operated his completely home-built station from the family residence in a Philadelphia three-story row-house during the years

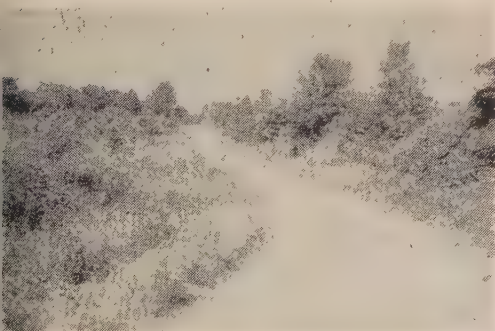
from 1936 through 1940. Antenna possibilities in this congested district were limited to a few bent wires threaded through housetop clotheslines and broadcast receiving antennas. From such an unfavorable ham location, Len managed a pre-war WAS and WAC, rounding up 56 countries—a fairly impressive total for those days. In September, 1940, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

The notion of the "ham shack on the hill" persisted with Len through the war years, during which he saw service in the Pacific theater of operations, visiting spots such as VK9, JZØ, DU, KR6 and JA. Code-handling and technical proficiencies derived from his earlier hamming days qualified Len for a communications billet with the AACs, and he held down one end of many a hot c.w. inter-island circuit.

Emerging from the war intact and as a Master Sergeant, Len went to work as a civilian operator at the Signal Corps communications center in the Pentagon at Washington, D. C. Here, with co-workers W3JTC (later SVØWP), W9NWX (later WØNWX, VP7NG, FO8AJ, etc.) and others, Len helped to organize the now widely-known Potomac Valley Radio Club of Washington, D. C. and environs. (Len has subsequently served terms as president, activities manager, secretary and treasurer of the club.)

Len's first postwar operation was under the call W4KXN from an Alexandria, Virginia, apartment, and later as W3GRF from his sister's home in suburban D. C. He established W3GRF as one of the country's outstanding DX and contest stations during this period.

In 1950, Len transferred to his present job as a



An important ingredient for good DX . . . a driveway, half a mile long!



Front view of the "shack" at W3GRF.

All photographs by M. H. Baller, Washington, D. C.

civilian Communications Specialist at the AACSS Overseas Communications Center at Andrews Air Force Base, near Washington.

A Hill is a Hill is a Hill

The desire for a rural hilltop QTH persisted and, early in 1954, routine sorties into the Maryland countryside became a weekend feature on Len's agenda. Armed with road and topographic maps and a fistful of real estate listings, Len scoured the hinterlands for "The Hill." The rest of us in the club followed Len's bucolic frolic with a mixture of admiration, skepticism and, knowing Len's penchant for follow-through, more than a little anticipation.

Finally, we learned, he had found it! Fifteen acres, including a hill, which, he said, dominated the surrounding terrain. He made the down payment to clinch the deal, then announced his good fortune to the rest of the membership.

"Great!!" we reacted, but what kind of a building did the deal include? No building at all, we learned . . . this could come later. Hmm-m, OK . . . but were there clearings to accommodate the Vee's and Rhombics? Hardly . . . the place was thickly wooded, with fifty- and sixty-foot pines, poplars and oak standing shoulder to shoulder over the entire hill!

Anyway, the location seemed strategic—a scant eight miles from the District line and only five miles from GRF's place of work at Andrews Air Force Base. Convenience of access was one significant redeeming feature, we all agreed. "Now, how do you get there to look the place over?" we inquired. We-ell, you don't, exactly, we learned; the hilltop is a good half-mile from the nearest road, and it would be necessary to cross a substantial creek and plough, shanks mare, uphill through a thousand yards of brambles and underbrush . . . there to peer

about among the trees only to see . . . more trees.

To shorten a long story, no one made it. Len accepted Len's assurances that it was *the QTH*, but appalled by the magnitude of the task ahead, we began to have misgivings concerning the ultimate success of the venture.

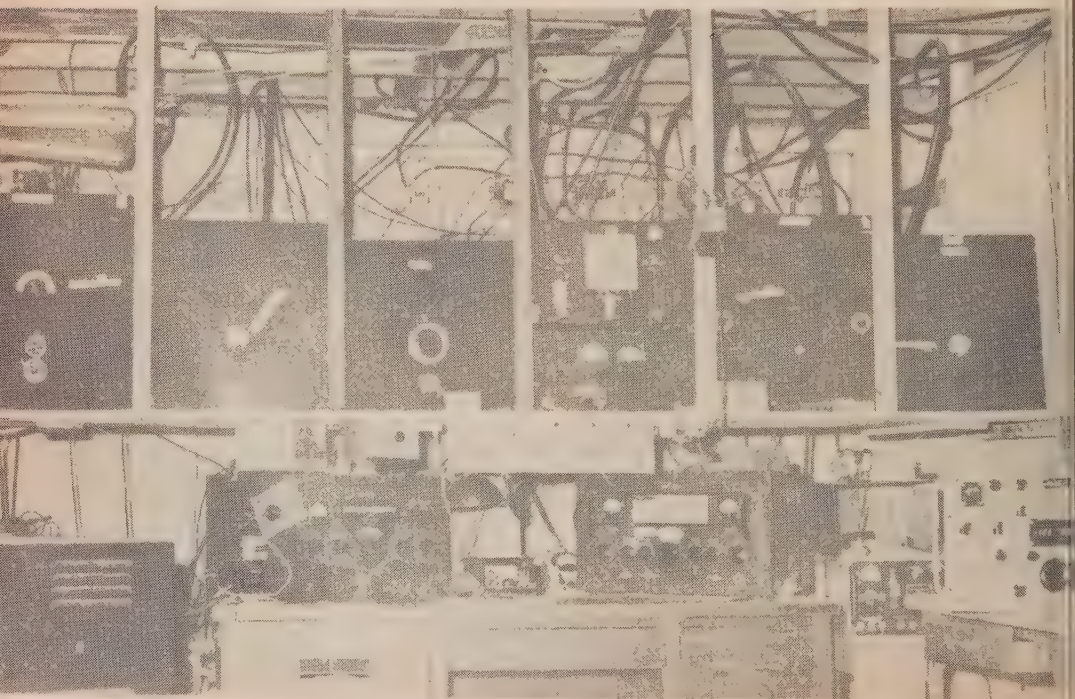
Well, we heard from Len once in a while after that . . . his appearance at club meetings were infrequent, and W3GRF all but disappeared from the air. As the weeks rolled by, reports of progress began to trickle in. Len couldn't make the meeting, we would hear, because he had a date with a bulldozer . . . or he was building a culvert to carry the embankment road over the creek.

The culvert didn't work; heavy rains converted the tranquil creek into a destructive force and the road way was washed away on two occasions. Thereupon Len, undaunted, abandoned the culvert scheme and contracted for a thirty-foot timber bridge. Then the rest of the road went in—a half mile of it through the woods and all the way up the hill. Next came the power company, and after some negotiations a special line was installed requiring nine widely spaced poles . . . and terminating in a brand new 15 kva pole pot near the prospective homesite.

Len, meanwhile, had purchased a chain saw and was working every night after leaving the job and on day Saturdays and Sundays—the trees began to fall, permitting sunlight to reach the ground in steady growing patches. It was back-breaking work, but a city boy thrived on it and was soon sporting an enormous tan and a set of bulging muscles.

As funds permitted, Len would have a bulldozer in to help with the clearing of underbrush and to push the felled timber into huge piles for burning. Mostly, though, it was Len, chipping away with a chainsaw . . . summer and winter, in solitude on the hilltop . . . Gutzon Borglum was no more dedicated

The operating position at W3GRF—separate finals for every band.



or purposeful in his attack on Rushmore.

Len's unbachelor-like activities were, in fact, regarded with some concern by his family and friends alike. Some found it difficult to understand why he would squander his money on rural acreage and a house, when he could be investing it sensibly in cars, clothes and riotous living. But Len, the man with a plan, paid little heed to the critics.

With completion of the access road, the visitor-index rose sharply, and Len began to realize dividends on past favors to others (and few were the PVRC members who hadn't at one time been ably assisted by W3GRF in carrying out their own antenna construction projects!). Many of those who showed up were motivated largely by idle curiosity . . . these, too, were promptly pressed into service by resourceful Len, who laid in a supply of extra axes and shovels with which his "guests" might entertain themselves.

On Field Day, 1955, W3EIS/3, a one-transmitter, two-man entry, made the first radio contacts from Len's hilltop—operating from a tent in the center of a 100-by-100-foot clearing, with dipoles hanging from trees rimming the opening. The future home of W3GRF was confirmed as a very promising QTH, indeed; thirty watts, from batteries, produced a (then-record) score of 493 contacts to lead all one-transmitter entries in the event.

Hard to Believe

The success of any homesteading effort, we should explain for the benefit of you city-dwellers, depends heavily upon the availability of a suitable source of water. Before proceeding into the construction of the house, therefore, Len contacted a local well-digging outfit and arranged to have the job done. Well digging, for the uninitiated, is a somewhat speculative proposition wherein the well digger (or driller, as the case may be) gets reimbursed for his effort—but this does not necessarily produce water in the desired quantities. So it was in Len's case. A hole was dug some thirty feet into GRF's hilltop with negative results; a second attempt some distance away was no more successful. At three dollars per foot, Len's financial resources were dwindling rapidly. Even Len's indomitable enthusiasm waned somewhat; contemplating this dispiriting turn of events, he said to the well digger: "What do you suggest? I can't afford to have many more dry ones dug!" "Well," said the contractor,

mopping his brow, "you may think it's silly, but I know a fellow who claims to be able to locate underground streams by using a divining rod . . . I can't hardly believe it myself, but I've seen him produce results more than once. He charges ten bucks and makes no guarantees, but you're in a spot . . . and it might work."

It should be noted here that Len is a hard-headed realist, devoid of superstitions and holding no brief for witchcraft in any form. His decision, therefore, is indicative of his desperation at this juncture, for with a sigh of resignation, he replied: "OK, call him over . . . I've gone this far, I can't quit now!"

A short time later, the advertised rhabdomantist put in his appearance at the GRF estate, complete with a forked stick and an air of self-assurance. His performance commenced to an audience consisting of the well-digging contractor, his two assistants and Len, the latter conscience-stricken at his role as sponsor of the ritual . . . and wondering, guiltily, what he would say if a friend should drive up unexpectedly!

The fellow held the stick in front of him and walked slowly forward . . . suddenly the stick dipped down; he recrossed the point several times with the same result . . . whereupon he scratched an "X" in the dirt, and took off along a parallel path. The diggers watched, bug-eyed. Len, writhing inwardly, looked on without enthusiasm. The ceremony continued for perhaps fifteen or twenty minutes, by which time two well-defined rows of X's had been marked on the ground; then the chap turned to the group and said: "Dig here, I think this is a good spot."



Three band beam for 10, 15 and 20 meters, on 70-foot mast.



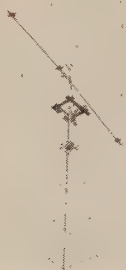
Len Chertok and his musical saw.

Len, describing his feelings at this point, says that he had become somewhat impressed with the diviner's confident manner, but felt certain his ten dollars would have to be chalked up to "experience" and whatever comfort could be derived from the knowledge that he had tried *everything*. The spot which the man selected was not far removed from the two previous dry holes, so there was little basis for expecting better results. Len paid the man and he left; the digging resumed.

"The results? You guessed it! Len's well stands right where the mystic with the twig said "dig!" It has produced an ample flow of cool, clear water right through severe droughts. With a gesture of resignation, Len simply says: "I just don't understand it, but there it is!"

Construction Underway

In the spring of 1956 the site for the house had been cleared and leveled, and Len contracted for a three-bedroom rambler with a full 25 by 42 foot basement. The building proceeded rapidly and Len, meanwhile, set about to erect suitable towers for his dream beams. By this time, nearly three acres had been cleared, including a central clearing for the house and three tower sites, and four 50-foot-wide swaths through the woods in various directions for the long wire Vee's. When Len moved into his new home in the late summer of that year, three towers loomed above the trees. These included a 100 foot Vesto self-supporting tower and two guyed towers, one a 100 footer and the other 90 feet in height.

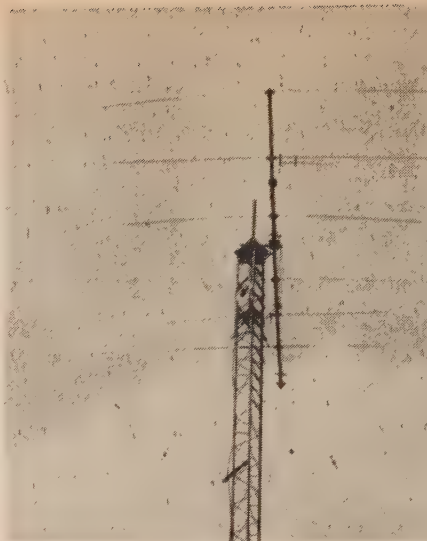


A full-sized forty meter beam, 100 feet above the ground.

By the advent of the 1956 contest season, an impressive set of antennas had been installed and W3GRF boomed forth with real authority on the DX bands. Len turned in the third high national score in the CQ DX Contest that year, and followed it up with a fourth high national score in the 1957 ARRL DX Test.

Into Each Life...

Life at the Chertok Estate has never been dull. On one well remembered occasion, Len, working with an electric drill at the sixty foot level on one of his guyed towers, found himself providing a direct circuit to the well grounded tower for the 115 volt line current; the drill had shorted internally! Frozen solidly to the tower and unable to release his grip on either the drill or the tower, Len shouted for help to W6HOH/3, who was assisting from the ground below. Fortunately, HOH reacted swiftly, dashed over and pulled the plug, thereby releasing Len from a very serious predicament. A much chastened Chertok has established use of rubber gloves and an isolation transformer as S.O.P. for future use of electrical appliances on the GRF towers.



Dual 10-15 meter beam, 125 feet straight up!

Then there was the time when Len, removing a few trees standing close to vital guy wires, felled a forty-foot pine which went over in exactly the opposite direction from that intended. Before Len's horrified gaze, the errant tree deposited itself across a guy wire from his 90 foot tower; the tower promptly buckled and fell into a pile of twisted metal, topped off with the wreckage of two four-element beams (10 over 15 meters). The entire catastrophe required an estimated ten seconds from the time the tree started to tip until the pile of tangled metal stopped bouncing. Reporting the disaster on the club's two meter net that evening, Len wryly observed, "This has not been one of my better days."

A few months later the calamity was repeated when a bulldozer, clearing land near one of the guy anchors for the 100-footer, backed into the guy wire... and down came 100 feet of steel tower and a four-element wide-spaced twenty meter beam. A lesser spirit than Len's would have turned stamp collecting or, possibly, drink. Not Len, however, who began planning for bigger and better towers even while the rubble was being cleared away!

UR 599

Today the monument to Len's persistence and courage stands near completion:

The 100 foot Vesto tower supports a full-size three element forty meter rotary... the reflector 73 feet long! A 100 foot guyed tower is topped off with a five element twenty meter beam employing a 45 foot boom. An in-line beam with three ten meter elements arranged in front of four fifteen meter elements perches atop a 125 foot guyed tower while a diminutive 70 footer near the house carries a three band in-line beam which combines a total of six elements for ten, fifteen and twenty meter operation. All of the rotaries were constructed in the basement on long winter evenings. A single section 8JK, suspended about ninety feet above the ground, is oriented for Europe and New Zealand.

0 meter DXing. A 270 foot long wire for 80 and 60 completes the present antenna set-up.

Len's hamshack now occupies one end of the large basement room, with the remainder devoted to equipment storage and an outsized workbench. Separate home-built finals are available for each band and from ten through one-sixty, and these are driven by a Collins 32V3. Look at this firepower:

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| 160 Meters | single 4-65A, 200 watts |
| 80 Meters | p.p. 810's, 1 kw |
| 40 Meters | p.p. 833's, 1 kw |
| 20 Meters | p.p. 833's, 1 kw |
| 15 Meters | p.p. 450TL's, 1 kw |
| 10 Meters | p.p. 833's, 1 kw |

One kw, hah!" you say? Len has documentation. smack in the middle of the 1958 CQ DX contest, the FCC wheeled up to confirm the point, as they did in many places on that fateful day. It cost Len a vital hour of contest time, but he can point with pride to a rig that is U.S. Government Inspected.

A further note or two on the rig: It is almost completely unshielded and its configuration (see photo) conveys a bit of nostalgia from the pre-TVI days. Len's nearest neighbors are a good half mile away and any harmonics radiated directly by the finals peter out before they reach the sensitive ears of a TV set. "After all," points out Len, "if I stopped to shield and beautify the rig, where would I get the time to do all the other things that need attention around here?" A single power supply is used for the final amplifiers, and all transmitter and antenna combinations are available for use from the operating position at the flip of a switch. A seldom-used modulator is available, which functions with any final; it employs a pair of 833's, lighted only once or twice a year when some of the gang show up to tout W3GRF on for one of the phone DX contests. Needless to comment, Len's first love is c.w.

Feed lines to the various antennas consist for the most part of RG-17/U cable, suspended from messenger cables between poles erected for the purpose. The longest feedline measures about 325 feet.

Receiver

A trusty Collins 75A-2, with an 800 cycle mechanical filter and augmented by a DB-33 preselector, carries the receiving burden.

As for the house . . . it's looking better every day. Recent improvements include wall-to-wall carpeting and fancy drapes. A hi-fi set and ample collection of big band jazz records serves to liven the rustic environment. Lacking the assistance of an XYL, Len hires a cleaning lady to drop by and set things in order once a week, and (excepting the workshop and of the basement) the appearance of the place belies its rôle as a bachelor's abode.

Tourist Attraction

Len's once-inaccessible wooded hilltop is now a Mecca for Washington area hamdom; visitors come and go on various errands ranging from sightseeing to soliciting Len's assistance and advice on antenna construction projects or other ham-oriented undertakings. The Potomac Valley Radio Club has held summer meetings there and, during June, 1959, the

W3GRF establishment was the scene of the annual joint meeting between the Frankford Radio Club of Philadelphia and the PVRC. On that occasion, Len's thirty-foot bridge supported a Greyhound bus laden with forty-five beefy linemen from Frankford's first team!

W3GRF is always activated for the operating contests; if Len himself is not at the key, one or more of the local gang takes the helm to enjoy a memorable operating experience. W6HOH/3 piloted the station to a top U.S. score in the 1959 European W.A.E. contest, for example. Len himself achieved one of his major goals in the 1959 CQ DX contest, by topping all U.S. entries with a 388,010-point score. (See June, '60 CQ, page 36). His sights now are set on a national first place in the ARRL C.W. DX Test. He almost made it in 1960 . . . and the smart money says it's W3GRF in '61!

Other Activities

Not all of Len's efforts go into development of his homestead and contest operation. He has managed to edge his country count up to 275 or so, occupies an active rôle in PVRC affairs and presides as anchor man on the club's two meter net. He maintains a lively interest in political and rulemaking activities affecting ham radio. Len will be remembered by several hundred DXer's as the master of ceremonies for the DX luncheon at the National ARRL Convention held in Washington, D. C., in 1958, under sponsorship of the Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. He now serves as secretary for the F.A.R., an organization with representation from nineteen Washington-Baltimore area radio clubs. No social slouch, Len rarely misses out on weekend dancing dates . . . except, of course, during the contest season!

Len has built a better hamshack, and the world, so to speak, is beating a path to his door. His spectacular demonstration of what can be done along these lines, and his enthusiasm on the subject has motivated a number of his fellow PVRC members to "take to the hills." While none of them, to date, has attempted a raw pioneering effort to match Len's, the shift from the suburbs into rustic areas has proven equally beneficial for all . . . W3MSK, W3PZW, W4YHD, W4KFC and W3MSR, to mention a few, have followed suit and established new and more favorable antenna sites for themselves. Others now are combing the hinterlands around Washington, D. C. with a calculating eye.

Now that the skywires are all in place and working well, Len's homesteading efforts are mainly directed toward further clearing of underbrush, leveling of the terrain, stump removal and planting of grass. His aerie proved to be atop a deposit of almost solid bank gravel, a useful road-building component, for which he has already received an attractive offer. But Len's reaction to this is in character: "Why should I sell? I'd just have to go out and do this all over again!"

Next time you're sightseeing in Washington, D.C., be sure to include, along with your visits to Mount Vernon, the Lincoln Memorial and the Smithsonian, a sidetrip to W3GRF . . . it'll put you in a hill-hunting mood ■

Modulation, Audio Power and Readability

Carl C. Drumeller, W5EH
5824 N. W. 58 St.
Oklahoma City 12, Oklahoma

FOR years electronic technicians have been urged to adjust radiotelephone transmitters so that the average percentage of modulation ran as near to 100% as feasible and still avoid over-modulation. This doctrine has become so firmly ingrained that it is accepted without question. The tendency has been to push ever closer to the full limit and even spill over beyond the legal limit in an effort to enhance the readability of the received signal.

Aural Perception vs. Modulation

Perhaps it would be well to examine carefully the relationships between audio power output of a modulator, modulation percentage, and aural perception levels. With this relationship established, the way will be clear to consider the subject in more detail.

It has been established that the human sense of hearing can detect a change of audio level of one decibel. This, however, is under carefully controlled, idealized conditions. Under ordinary circumstances, a change of two decibels in the level of a tone can be detected in a quiet room. Under conditions of moderate noise a three decibel difference in tone level can be distinguished. With voice signals, however, it is doubtful that a three decibel change could be detected in the presence of any masking noise. A four decibel change could be noticed through faint noise, a six decibel change through moderate noise, such as the normal background noise of a radio receiver. From this, then, it may be assumed that a six decibel change is the minimum that may be readily noted under normal radio reception conditions.

For an example, let's consider a radiotelephone transmitter with a d.c. power plate input to the final amplifier of 100 watts. To modulate it 100% by a pure tone would require 50 watts of audio-frequency power at the secondary of the modulation transformer. This requirement is computed by the formula

$$P_1 = 0.5 (m)^2 P_2$$

where: m = the modulation index (1 for 100%)

P_1 = the audio power from the modulator

P_2 = the d.c. plate input

If it is desired to find the modulation index, the formula is rearranged to read

$$m = \sqrt{0.5 \frac{P_1}{P_2}}$$

With these facts at hand, let's consider next the relationship of audio-frequency power and decibels. With the formula

$$\text{Decibels} = \frac{\text{Audio power for 100 \% modulation}}{\text{Audio power for less modulation}}$$

one can establish exact values.

We're ready now to investigate the relationships. Let's first see what happens if we drop the level two decibels, which would be too small an increment to detect in a voice circuit.

$$2 = 10 \log \frac{50 \text{ watts}}{P}$$

$$0.2 = \log \frac{50}{P}$$

$$1.58 = \frac{50}{P}$$

$$P = 31.6 \text{ watts}$$

To determine the modulation percentage at this level, we drop figures into the previously given formula.

$$m = \sqrt{\frac{31.6}{0.5 \times 100}}$$

$$m = 79.5$$

This tells us that no listener can detect the difference between 100% and 80% modulation in a radiotelephone being modulated by voice.

Repeating the process for three decibels, we find the modulation percentage to be 70.7%; for four decibels, 63%; for six decibels, 50%. It will be recalled that a three decibel drop in voice signal level probably could not be detected by a listening test. A four decibel drop could be noted only if the noise level were quite low, but a six decibel drop would give a positive indication of lower audibility.

These audibility relationships would hold true only if the receiving equipment were not equipped with a noise limiter circuit. Almost all noise limiters work on a principle of limiting the response to higher percentages of modulation. Many commercial receivers start this limiting process at as low as 30% modulation. When such a system of noise limiting is used, it becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish between 100% voice modulation and, say, 70% modulation.

Conclusion

These facts all add up to this: If a transmitter drops from 100% modulation to 70% no one will ever know the difference; therefore it is not worth the risk of over-modulation to crowd a transmitter close to the 100% mark.

The Significance Of S. W. R. Measurements

Don M. Wherry, W6EUM

2121 Grand View Drive
Camarillo, California

A definition and review of S. W. R. and how it affects your transmissions.

We frequently hear such statements as, "I have been working all day and I can't get my *swr* below 1.5 to 1." Let's see just what this means in terms of losses, but first let's define *swr*. This term can be simply stated as, "the ratio of maximum current, or voltage, to the minimum current, or voltage, along a transmission line." This definition can be expressed as

$$SWR = \frac{Z_r}{Z_o}$$

where Z_r is the impedance of the load (pure resistance) and Z_o is the impedance of the line. The right hand factor, Z_r over Z_o , can be inverted, if necessary, to allow the larger figure to appear in the numerator, thus allowing the answer to always be larger than one.

The answer you get will then be the number of times larger the current, or voltage, is at the maximum point in the line over the current, or voltage, at the minimum point.

Going back to the original statement, let's examine the situation. From a set of curves showing attenuation data for common types of transmission lines, which we can find in almost any text book or handbook, including the ARRL *Handbook*, we find that 100 feet of RG-8/U cable has a loss of 0.4 db when operating flat at 7 mc. Now, since the rule of the thumb definition for db is "one db change in volume is the minimum change which can be detected by the human ear" this shows that it would take approximately 250 feet of RG-8/U at 7 mc to introduce enough loss to be detectable at the receiving end, this, if the line is flat.

As our original statement expressed an *swr* of 1.5 to 1, let's see how that effects the total losses in the line. Again going to published tables we find that the *additional* loss per 100 feet of line at 7 mc is too low to be measurable for a *swr* of 1.5 to 1. An *swr* of 2 to 1 shows an additional loss of 0.1 db per 100 feet which when added to the original line loss of 0.4 db gives a 0.5 db loss per 100 feet. It would take therefore, approximately 200 feet of line at an *swr* of 2 to 1 to have a detectable loss in volume at the receiving end. Looking at it from the *swr* aspect

only, it would take an *swr* of approximately 8.5 to 1 to add a detectable loss per 100 feet when operated at 7 mc. By "detectable" I mean noticeable to the ear.

As the frequency increases, the normal line losses increase quite rapidly. At 30 mc, for example, RG-8/U has 1 db loss per 100 feet when flat. The additional loss caused by an *swr* of 1.5 to 1 is still too low to be measurable. However, with an *swr* of 2 to 1 the added loss is double the 7 mc figure, or 0.2 db, making the total of 1.2 db per 100 feet of line. This shows that it would take approximately 500 feet of RG-8/U with an *swr* of 2 to 1 to show a perceptible decrease in volume at the receiving end over the same line when flat. An *swr* of 8.5 to 1 however, will give an added loss of approximately 2 db which will then bring the total line loss to 3 db for 100 feet at 30 mc.

To summarize, any frequency to which RG-8/U could be used with any degree of efficiency, an *swr* of 1.5 to 1 is of no concern from the added loss aspect. It is, in fact, necessary to reach the ratio of 2.5 or 3 to 1 before concern need be aroused.

This is from the loss standpoint only. Making your low pass filter operate satisfactorily with an *swr* of 2 or 3 to 1 is another matter which will not be discussed here other than to say that if your filter seems ineffective check your *swr*.

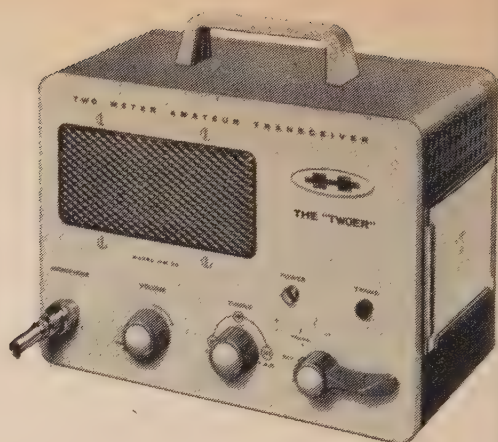
One final point, in connection with *swr*, which should be mentioned, is that a high reflected power figure (*swr*) does not mean, in itself, a high rf power loss. The only loss experienced is increased line losses which are due to higher current, higher voltage etc. The reflected power going back into the transmitter is not lost power in itself. It means simply that the antenna is not transferring power and will not load properly.

While all this is something everyone knows, and is readily available in text books, it seems to be fairly widely ignored among the amateur and experimenter fraternity. While the pure theorist might find some fault with a statement or two made in the foregoing I believe that it is sufficiently accurate and clear to satisfy and perhaps answer a question or two for the average ham or experimenter, like you and me. ■

The Heath "Twoer"

Lee Aurick, W2QEX

Technical Editor, CQ



IN appearance the Twoer is identical to its close cousins, the "Sixer" and "Tener." It does, however, contain one extra tube in the frequency multiplying section of the transmitter. The modulator/audio amplifier, speech amplifier/audio driver, and the receiver r.f. amplifier and detector follow closely the successful design of the previous units.

Transmitter

It doesn't take a very practiced eye to see at first glance that a great deal of thought has gone into the transmitter setup. In fact, things get a little crowded with all the by-passing around the two tube sockets that comprise the r.f. section. While the newcomer to v.h.f. techniques should work perhaps a little more carefully than he may be accustomed to with lower frequency transmitters, no trouble should be encountered. As with all kit construction, read the instructions, go through the motions of making the connection, make the connection, and then check again with the instructions to determine that your work agrees with the book. If this seems like a lot of bother, just try to shoot trouble on a piece of gear where this simple advice hasn't been followed. A great many hours have been spent trying to undo careless moments in kit construction.

Two 6BA8 tubes comprise the transmitter section. The pentode section of the first tube is the oscillator/tripler and the triode half of this tube triples again. The triode section of the second tube doubles to 144 Mc., and the pentode half works straight through as the final amplifier. Power input is approximately 5 watts. The output signal is derived from an 8 mc crystal. Several 8 mc crystals have been used and each one oscillated vigorously. The stability of this little transmitter and its freedom from annoying parasites can only be due to a fine layout job and the observance of good design practice. No opportunity has been wasted in by-passing any spot that could be potentially troublesome.

Each successive stage quickly and easily tunes to its required harmonic, and the final amplifier,

when tuned to resonance, nearly blows the #47 pilot lamp used as a dummy load during the initial tune up operation. A grid-dip meter is particularly useful during this period as an aid to approximating the settings of the various slugs. However, plenty of instructions are supplied to permit the beginner to do this job without such equipment.

Receiver

A 6BS8 double triode functions as the r.f. amplifier and superregenerative detector. As in the transmitter, by-passing and filtering provide a unit that meets every requirement of v.h.f. design. The detector regenerates smoothly over the entire band, and once the regeneration control on the rear apron is adjusted it may be forgotten. Considerable pains have been taken to eliminate some of the more trying problems associated with this type of detector. The output circuit of the r.f. amplifier is impedance coupled to the cathode circuit of the superregenerative detector, effectively eliminating the "suck-out" condition which can occur when a tuned circuit is not properly isolated from the detector. The r.f. amplifier also isolates the antenna from the oscillating detector, reducing, to a negligible level, re-radiation from the detector. Three microvolts input will almost completely quiet the receiver, and usable signals may be derived from only $\frac{1}{2}$ microvolt.

Audio Section

A 12AX7 and a 6AQ5 comprise the audio section which is nearly identical to the circuits used in the "Sixer" and "Tener." One half of the 12AX7 functions as the audio driver to drive the 6AQ5 audio output stage. In the transmit position, the first half of the 12AX7 is called into play as a microphone pre-amplifier to drive the second half as the audio driver. The 6AQ5 then becomes the modulator.

Power Supply

The internal power supply provides approximately 260 volts at 45 ma during receive, and 90 ma during transmit. Silicon diodes perform



CQ Reviews:

The Auto-Mate Keyer

IT ISN'T very difficult in these technically sophisticated days to get the feeling that there has been a general neglect of the basic mode of operation for which we are all licensed. If there ever was an item that promised to get more hams back on c.w., the electronic keyer is it. Recently, your reviewer had an opportunity to build and operate the K 5/50 keyer kit marketed by Ben Woodruff, 6140 North Harding Avenue, Chicago 45, Illinois. Ever have a tiger by the tail? If you've never used such a keyer before, that's exactly what it feels like. We have the impression too that it might be even easier to acquire a mastery of this device without previous semi-automatic key experience. At least you have nothing to unlearn. However, our experience with the unit demonstrated that only a few evenings, at most, are required to produce a level of proficiency only slightly lower in speed than with the customary bug. Within a week, the previous level of speed with the old bug had been passed. What was even more surprising though, receiving speed had climbed as well.

While not new in essential circuit details, there

have been a few contributions made by the manufacturer. He readily admits that the circuit has been around for a few years. Long enough to be widely tested and built from scratch by any number of amateurs. Ben's contributions have been to add a dual range control thereby making the unit valuable to the Novice as well as to the Old Timer, and a "hold" feature that corresponds to the blocking-lever function of a conventional key or bug.

The K 5/50 comes complete except for tubes and two neon lamps and is 5½" high, 4⅞" wide and 8½" deep. It may be purchased without the mercury relay if you already possess any of these Western Electric relays (D-168479, D-171584, or GA-50143). If not, there is only a very small difference in the price of the kit, with or without the relay.

The tubes and neon lamps that are required and not supplied are 4-5963's, 1-0A2, 1-0B2, 1-NE-51, and 1-NE-2. Though 5963's are preferred, 12AU7's may be used. The 5963 is a computer type tube that is designed for long periods of operation under cut-off conditions. The essentially ON-OFF, computer type operation of this keyer is just the kind of application for which the 5963 was intended. It generally may be expected to give better service than the 12AU7.

Construction

To facilitate construction, all tube sockets and terminal strips are already installed and riveted
[Continued on page 106]

the job of rectification when the unit is operated from 117 volts a.c. The power connector on the rear chassis permits the "Twoer" to be operated from any power supply capable of providing the voltages and currents indicated above. The filaments may be operated from either 6 or 12 volt systems, depending upon which power cable is used.

On The Air

As soon as the power supply had been checked for possible shorts, no time was lost in getting the rig "fired-up." Like most amateurs; your reviewer couldn't wait to connect a suitable fitting to the regular 2 meter antenna. A quick estimate

of 19 inches was made and the first handy piece of hook-up wire was pressed into service as a quarter wave antenna mounted directly on the rear apron. With power on, a station about 9 miles away was heard as soon as the receiver came to life. He was just finishing a CQ. A "Three by Three," and back he came. Somehow, your reviewer managed to retain his precariously balanced position. This from a poorer than average v.h.f. location, too. Since then, many contacts have been made with a variety of antennas, and S9 reports from 20 miles away have become commonplace. For high-fun power, and a very respectable introduction to 2 meters, the "Twoer" has a great deal to offer. ■

Maurice J. Hindin, W6EUV

6505 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles 48, Calif.

From time to time, AMATEUR LEGAL NOTES has reported cases in which cities, counties, and other political subdivisions of a state have attempted to impose restrictions upon amateur radio. A new and different threat has reared its menacing head. That is the deed restriction or restrictive covenant directly affecting real property or its use.

While this latest attack on free use of radio equipment may affect only a relatively small number of the licensed amateur radio operators, it is of sufficient importance, we think, to alert the amateur radio fraternity as a whole. Specifically, any amateur operator who is contemplating the purchase of a new home or contemplating the leasing of a new home or, in fact, contemplating any move, can avoid the pitfalls of the so-called "deed restriction" against amateur radio. This pitfall, however, can be avoided only if the amateur is aware that such a danger exists and is alerted to rule out its presence. A number of amateurs who have recently purchased new homes have been made sharply aware of the potential danger and, in some instances, have become involved in extensive litigation to avoid the consequences of the so-called "deed restriction."

The Problem

When a person buys a piece of real property, title or ownership to the property is transferred to him by a legal instrument known as a deed. The deed transfers ownership of the land, but the deed is given subject to existing covenants, conditions, and restrictions of record. Covenants, conditions, and restrictions of record mean that at some time prior to the immediate purchase of the land, previous owners entered into an agreement whereby they agreed that the land would never be used in a particular way or for particular purposes. Typical of these deed restrictions or covenants running with the land are restrictions that the property may never be used except as a single dwelling house or that no commercial business will ever be conducted on the premises, or that no building will ever be constructed with less than a given number of square feet, or that no fences will ever be constructed higher than a specified height, or that these premises will never be occupied by persons of a particular race or color.

These restrictions or covenants running with the land are treated by the courts as a binding contract between the original owner and each subsequent owner of the property. The deed restrictions may be enforced, with certain exceptions, by the courts. If a person buys a piece of

property with a deeded restriction of record, and he violates the deeded restriction, at least three legal actions may be taken against him. They are: (1) An injunction can be sought through the courts by either the original owner or a prior owner or other neighbors to enjoin or prevent him from violating the restrictive covenant; (2) An injunction can be sought through the courts to require him to abate or remove the thing which represents the breach of the restrictive covenant; or (3) An action may be maintained to declare a forfeiture of the property, thereby causing the title to revert to the original owner.

It can be readily seen, therefore, that a person who buys a piece of property may inadvertently find himself involved in litigation which could jeopardize his investment, as well as preventing him from making a particular use of the property. The danger arises because the average purchaser of real property has never informed himself of the actual existing restrictions, covenants, and conditions affecting his land. They do not normally ever appear in a deed and, likewise, they are generally of no concern to a lending institution which may finance the purchase of the property. A person may readily buy a piece of property and never be aware that the property is subject to any particular restriction as to its use.

Within the last six or seven years, a number of amateurs have been suddenly confronted with the problem of a deed restriction actually prohibiting their use of the land for an amateur radio station, or imposing such additional restrictions as to make it virtually impossible for them to operate an amateur radio station without being in violation of a deed restriction.

Amateurs so affected have, in many instances, been confronted with deed restrictions or restrictive covenants which: (1) Expressly prohibit the operation of an amateur radio station on the property. (2) Prohibit the use of the property for an amateur radio station unless and until an association of land owners approves the use and design of such equipment. (3) Prohibit the erection of any radio transmitting or receiving antennas unless the design of the antenna is approved by the board. (4) Restrict the height of an antenna to a specified height, very often twenty or thirty feet. (5) Require in addition to a Federal Communications Commission license, a permit from the land owners association board or other specified group.

The experience of many amateurs has been that wherever permission to operate an amateur radio station is required, all types of unreasonable restrictions have been imposed by the various boards or property owners' committees.

While the stated purpose of the restrictive covenants is to preserve the property values and integrity of the community, the actual purpose is to prevent amateur radio operators from operating in those districts.

The Prevention

The existence of restrictive covenants presents certain legal problems which are unique and extremely difficult to correct. While restrictions on amateur radio activities, which are imposed by cities, counties, or other political subdivisions of a state, are to be tested by the courts primarily with reference to their relation to interstate commerce, no such safeguard exists with reference to restrictive covenants. A restrictive covenant is, in effect, a private contract between the owner of the property and former owners. If a person, by contract, agrees to forego his right to participate in amateur radio activity, that, in effect, is a matter of private contract, and it is quite different from the situation where a city or county imposes against his will a restriction against his participation in his hobby. The legal problems, therefore, attendant to a restrictive covenant which prohibits amateur radio activity or imposes excessive burdens on it, become an extremely difficult problem. It would, therefore, seem that prevention of the problems is to be desired rather than attempting a cure. Prevention is not only the smart thing to do, but it is likewise the economical thing to do. Several specific suggestions with reference to the pre-

vention of entanglements with restrictive covenants might be helpful.

If you plan to buy a home or move to a new location, take the following steps: (1) Before you purchase a new home or property upon which you plan to build a new home, secure from either the person selling you the property or from the County Recorder where the land is purchased, a complete set of the covenants, conditions, and restrictions affecting the property of record. (2) Read the conditions, covenants and restrictions carefully, and if there is anything in the restrictions which refers to height limits of structures, use of the property, whether or not it directly mentions amateur radio, discuss the meaning of the restrictions with either an attorney or a representative of a title company, or someone well versed in the technical meaning of the covenants, conditions, and restrictions. (3) If there is any doubt as to whether or not the restrictions could be reasonably construed as preventing the erection of an adequate antenna or the use of the property for amateur radio use, do not buy the property unless you are willing to take the risk of litigation. The old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is equally true with reference to this practical problem.

In a subsequent issue, Amateur Legal Notes will discuss what can be done if you have already purchased a home where there is a deed restriction or a covenant limiting or affecting your right to use your property for an amateur radio station. ■

French Amateurs Honor W6QLV

The French Radio Amateur Society, the R.E.F. (Réseau des Emetteurs Français) awarded the Bronze Medal of Merit to CQ's "Mr. HAM CLINIC," Charles J. "Chuck" Schaubers, W6QLV, ex-F7FE prior to his departure for the United States.

At a surprise gathering, Chuck was presented the medal and certificate at his home by Dr. Jacques Simonnet, F9DW, an R.E.F. Council Member and Treasurer of the I.A.R.U. (International Amateur Radio Union). Witnessing the presentation were F3VH, Dr. Mayac; F8RB, present head of the 21st R.E.F. section to which Chuck belongs and F8IW, past president of the section. Also on hand was the sous-préfet (Lt. Governor) of the area, Mr. Krieger.

The first American to receive the award, Chuck was told that his efforts to tighten the bonds of

Franco-American amateur friendship by his active participation in all of the R.E.F.'s activities (including publication of his writing in the official organ *Radio REF* in the French Language); helping amateurs the world-over with their technical problems and internationally creating goodwill and a better understanding of amateur radio were considered in making this rare presentation.

We at CQ and hamdom-at-large congratulate Chuck and extend our hand of friendship to the R.E.F. and all French amateurs.

Chuck is now in transit from his French assignment to somewhere in the United States where he will be permanently assigned. We ask those who have written to Chuck in connection with HAM CLINIC to be patient, as he will

answer correspondence as soon as possible.



URBAN LE JEUNE, JR., W2DEC

BOX 35, HAZLET, NEW JERSEY

The following certificates were issued between the period from December 12th, 1960 to and including January 12th, 1961:

WAZ

| | | |
|------|--------|---------------------|
| 1472 | W6KZL | Glen C. Tillack |
| 1473 | DL9KP | Paul Kleinholtz |
| 1474 | K0PEF | L. W. Robson |
| 1475 | UA3KND | Vlad Uirgorodsky |
| 1476 | ZL1AV | Dave Tremayne |
| 1477 | ZL4CK | William F. Self |
| 1478 | OH3OD | T. Lujanen |
| 1479 | DL9EH | Alfred Pichetta |
| 1480 | G3LET | Peter A. Hobbs |
| 1481 | G3AGN | C. J. Curtis |
| 1482 | DL1IN | Hansbeinrich Heider |
| 1483 | JA6NW | Kano Kamijo |
| 1484 | K2PFC | Duane H. Harris |
| 1485 | W1CKU | Charles J. Burton |
| 1486 | W9ZRG | O. M. Arnold |

CW WPX

| | | |
|-----|--------|--------------------|
| 151 | SM7CNA | Yngve Tröjer |
| 152 | PA0ZL | J. Smit |
| 153 | W3GAU | Joseph L. Gillson |
| 154 | K2QXG | Lauren L. McMaster |
| 155 | W1HGT | Ralph Green |
| 156 | W4DKP | William H. Aycock |
| 157 | W8ONA | Theodore C. Groat |
| 158 | W2KIR | Alex Ekblad |
| 159 | W2DEC | Urban A. LeJeune |

PHONE WPX

| | | |
|----|-------|-----------------|
| 23 | SP7HX | Roman Izykowski |
|----|-------|-----------------|

SSB WPX

| | | |
|----|-------|----------------------|
| 46 | PZ1AX | H. W. Green |
| 47 | W5PQA | H. W. Meredith, M.D. |

BAND ENDORSEMENTS

| | |
|--------|-------|
| 14 Mc. | VE3HB |
| PA0ZL | W6NW1 |
| W4DKP | W2DEC |

CONTINENT ENDORSEMENTS

| | |
|--------|-------|
| EUROPE | K2PFC |
| W2GVZ | DL3RK |

Letters

Received the following letter and picture from Brian, 5N2ATU:—"From January 1st, 1961, we will all be 5N2, not ZD2, and I will continue as active as I have managed to do so far this year.

"I do a fair amount of c.w. work (20, 15 and 10) with occasional trips to 40 c.w., though this means too much midnight oil burning, hi! I am also on fone but no s.s.b. as yet. That will have

to wait for my next trip home to U. K. about the end of 1961.

"Also thought you might be amused by enclosed photo of Angus (5N2AMS) on left and I (5N2ATU) on the right, with the QRM Devil himself. Angus' in on U. K. vacation at the moment.

"Last year I was 9G1BM and it seems a lot of my QSL's from there went astray. I am having some extra 9G1 cards printed and hope to catch up on all those who did not get one from me there.

"Finally, a plea for W7 activity—I'm sure those W7 boys just don't realize how comparatively rare they are for DX, so please, for QSL's work both ways!

"Enjoyed the few hours I spent in the c.w. end of the WWDX contest but it sure brings out the beast in some of the boys."

Brian's QTH is P. O. Box 38, Jos Northern Nigeria.

W3AYD, who won last year's VP9 contest relates his experience during his week trip to Bermuda, which was the first prize in the contest.

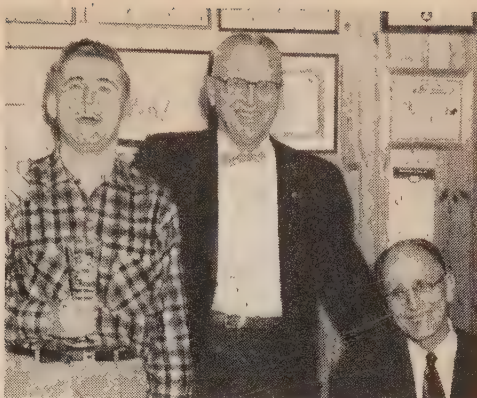
"Had a wonderful week in VP9 land—really received the 'red carpet' treatment. Visited VP-9AZ/BN/DC/DL/EI/FR/G/L shack's. There was a cocktail party meeting of the Radio Society of Bermuda, appeared on a local TV station as co-guest with VP9G, president of the Society. We answered questions put to us by a beautiful red-head MC, and you can bet the answers were designed to boost ham radio there. It was my first experience before the TV cameras. No, the mike didn't bother me, but those lights sure were hot and glaring. There must have been an audience, because four strangers stopped me in the streets of Hamilton the next day to say they had seen me on TV yesterday. Besides the antique map award for the highest W/K3, which was advertised, and is it a beauty, I received a

Silent Keys

The DX Fraternity will greatly feel the loss of three prominent members. I am sorry to record the passing of W4FU, W2GVZ, and KP4KD. We would be very hard pressed to name three finer operators and true sportsmen. Their many fine accomplishments will remain with all of us for a long time to come.



Roger, 9U5DM, and his XYL in their Usumbura, Ruanda Urundi QTH. Roger has been very active on 21 mc fone furnishing many of the boys with a new country. (Tnx K9EAB)



From left to right Bob, K2GMO, Vic, WA2DIG, and Gus, W4BPD during a little get together at W2JT's after Gus' return from his recent expedition. (Tnx WA2DIG)

surprise award, a sterling silver cup, matching the one presented to VP9DL, the local winner. By the way, VP9DL's victory was quite an achievement. He runs only 40 or 50 watts input."

Get your rigs ready. The VP9 boys are running the contest again in May.

Bits and Pieces

AC4 Tibet—The following letter from AC4AX was received by W5ASG:

"Have just returned to Lhasa after a vacation in VU land. Please no mail or telegrams to be sent via China or any Chinese Post Office under any circumstances but rather to the following address only—D. S. Seal, WO Consulate General of India, c/o Political Officer in Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim, Via Siliguri, Calcutta, India. (Tnx WGDXC)

AC5 Bhutan—AC5PN continues to be active on 14 mc c.w. around 1200 to 1300 GMT. He is now using a home-brew 500 watt transmitter. His QTH is Chhawna, Thimphu, Bhutan via Bhutan House Post Office Kalimpong, India.

CRI0 Portuguese Timor—W4DPF is now in Darwin, Australia and has been issued the call

VK8 TB. He is with the military and flies around that part of the world quite a bit. He has applied for a CR10 license. He has his KWM-1, with him and a beam on order. (Tnx WGDXC)

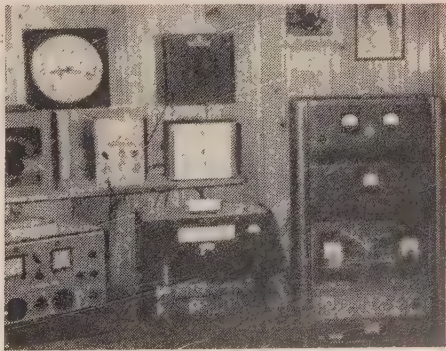
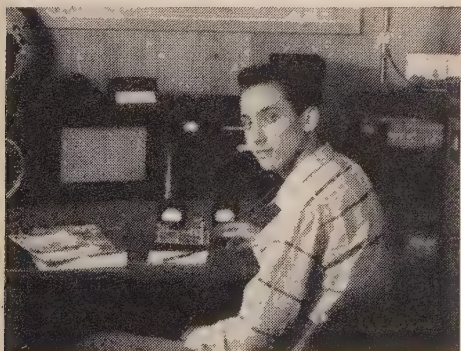
ET3 Ethiopia—HB9RS has been licensed as ET3RS and he will join ET3AZ and ET3MA as the only active Ethiopian stations at present. His QTH is M. deHenseler, Box 3001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (Tnx DXer)

UA1 Franz Josef Land—UA1ZEC and UA1ZEA are reported to be licensed and due to start operation shortly. (Tnx WGDXC)

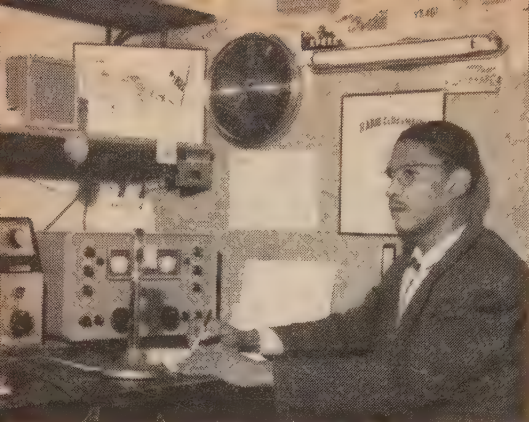
VK2 Lord How Island—Trevor, VK2FR, will be on 14060 kc crystal each Tuesday between 0430 and 0600 GMT. (Monday night in the states) (Tnx WGDXC)

VQ4 Kenya—We were sorry to hear that Leny, VQ4GT of VQ8CB and VQ8AB fame was seriously injured in an automobile accident and is expected to be in the hospital for at least three months. I am sure he would be pleased to hear from his many friends.

VR6 Pitcairn—Tom, VR6TC, has returned to the air and is on every night with the exception of Sundays and Mondays, at 0600 GMT around 14170 kc a.m. fone.



Here we have two of the Big Guns from W9 way. Skip, W9YSX, on the left and W9WHM's station, on the right. College homework has been cutting Skip's operating time lately.



Vic, HH2V, in his attractive shack in Port-au-Prince. When Vic worked W1BB on 160 meters in November, it was the first QSO between the two countries on 160 meters. (Tnx W1BB)



This is where the big signal of KX6BQ emanates. Ralph, K6KQO, is the chief operator there.



The ceremonies commemorating the inauguration of DU1BSP the official station of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines. Shown from left to right Rear Admiral Arthur F. Springs, Commander of the U.S. Naval Station at Subic Bay; DU1MPH, DU1RTI and DU1CV. (Tnx DU1RTI)

ZD7 St. Helena—John, VP7BT/W6MHB, (see last month's column) has moved to ZD7 land with hopes that he may get a ticket from there. (Tnx DXer)

ZD9 Gough Island—The following information from Mac, K2QXG, is self explanatory. "In QSO with Marge, ZS1RM, she asked me to get word to all possible, relative to working ZD9AM on Gough Island. He will be there six months and very active. Boys been complaining he only works African and Europe boys. Reason is W/K calling on freq while he is in QSO.

"For W/K wanting this country—Tuesday & Thursday, look for him 14,018 from 1900 or 1930 GMT to 2000. Those days Marge probably will be MCing. When she is QRX for calls, call Marge but only call *twice*—No long calls. She will pick the W/K and give his call to ZD9AM who will call the W/K on her freq. Acknowledge with RST, State and name **ONLY**. He will then give you a report and go back to Marge who will give next one to be called.

"If the W/K tail end him or break while he is in QSO he will *lower the boom* on W/K and not work them. If Marge is *not* MCing, call him 3 or 4 kc UP. *not* on his freq. He is very weak, around 449."

Although the sked has been set for Tuesday and Thursday, they have also been heard on other days at the same time and frequency.

ZS2 Marion Island—ZS2MI has been active on 14,170 kc a.m. fone on Fridays, starting at 2000 GMT with ZS6ANE acting as MC.

ZS7 Swaziland—Colan, ZS7L, is looking for Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and North Dakota to complete his WAS. He prefers 10 meter a.m. fone. (Tnx WGDXC)

5A Libya—Andy Goodwin, ex MP4DAA has been issued the call 5A3CAA. He is presently using 5A3TQ's rig while the latter is on vacation in the U. K. Andy will be on s.s.b. very shortly. His QTH is P. O. Box 263, Benghazi, Libya. (Tnx DXer)

K6BX and Telrex are co-sponsoring a world wide contest that will run throughout 1961. The first prize, in addition to a certificate, will be a TM-30 six element tri-band beam. Drop K6BX a s.a.s.e. at Box 385, Bonita, California for the full details.

160 Meters

ZC4AK/Cyprus/Steve—Writes that he is still getting into G land regularly. Best signal he hears is G2PU. Recently put up 5/8 wave 335' antenna held by 3 balloons but was disappointed w/results—Steve is on watch for W/VEs especially and is willing to sked any experienced 160 meter DXer. Write him. He operates not from his own call sign but from R.A.F. Akrotiri, Amateur Radio Club, and is the only member interested in 160.

WNA-160 Award Certificate—W1BB has had the privilege of seeing one of these in the flesh, and wishes to say that it is an extremely excellent job—well done on parchment by Dick Caruthers, K7HDB and the "South Shore MF Society"—Something you 160 meter boys will really love. Write Dick for further information.

W5SOT/Charles has been putting out a v.f.b.

signal as usual and is very active again this year having worked a fine string of Ws already—says signal peak for 30 minutes at sundown or an hour before. KH6DVD comes in v.f.b. at 0800 GMT for 10 to 30 minutes. Charles works in Materials Testing for Nuclear Engines at famous Los Alamos Nuclear Labs with 160 meter DX for relaxation. W7LNG "Bud" sends another v.f.b. "recording" of his QSO with KH6DVD—thus seeing to it that the East Coast really knows what the West Coast sounds like—must say the signals and background noise seem about the same, but thrilling to hear KH6DVD—wish it were "The real McCoy" on the airwaves on the East Coast. . . . W0CDP-Bing o f LaJunta Colorado says Alex, VP9EP, will be on this year. (Tnx to W1BB for 160 info)

Certificates

The SP-DX Club will award an attractive certificate attesting honorary membership to any licensed amateur (other than SP) having two-way communication with fifteen (for European operators) or ten (for DX) or more regular SP-DXC members. NØ QSL need be submitted but listed contacts shall have been confirmed by QSL and verified by SP-DXC and shall have been made after October 1st, 1959.

Applicants for this certificate should submit their lists and ten IRC to the SP-DX Club, The Secretary, Post Office Box 424, Lodz 1, Poland.

Some SPDXC members are: SP2AP, 2BE, 2LV, 3PL, 5GX, 5HS, 6BZ, 6FZ, 7HX, 8AG, 8CK, 8CP, 8EV, 8HR, 9DT, 9EU, 9RF, SP6-AAT, AP8MJ, SP8HU, SP 7 AZ, SP9TA. (Tnx SP2AP)

OH-Award

In order to develop co-operation and friendship between foreign and Finnish Radio Amateurs, Suomen Radioamatööritto, SRAL, has decided to publish the OH-Award. Here are the rules:

1. The OH-Award is available to licensed amateurs all over the world.

2. All contacts with Finnish amateur stations (except as par. 4) made after June 10, 1947 will count for the Award.

3. a. The applicants in LA, OZ AND SM will have to produce evidence of contacts with at least 50 different OH stations including at least 8 OH call areas on one band plus 8 different OH call areas together on other band(s).

3. b. The European applicants (except as in 3 a.) will have to produce evidence of contacts with at least 20 different OH stations including at least seven OH call areas. Maximum QSO number per band is 15 so at least two bands must be used.

3. c. Non-European (DX) applicants will have to produce evidence of contacts with at least 15 different OH stations including at least 5 OH call areas. The contacts may be made on one band but 3,5, mc QSO's will count as two contacts on other bands.

4. C.w. or phone or both mixed are allowed. The minimum reports are RST 338 and RS (M) 33 (M). Contacts with Finnish Marine-Mobile stations will not count.

5. Applications and a list of the stations will be sent to the OHA-Manager, Post Box 306, Helsinki, Finland. It is requested that a fee of 5 International Reply Coupons be enclosed to cover the postages. Decisions of the OH Award Committee will be final and definite.

footnote: The stations: OH8, ND, NJ, NS,



Duane, K2PFC, in the process of working a new one. (Tnx K2UKQ)



5N2AMS, Angus, and Brian, 5N2ATU, with QRM devil himself between them. (Tnx 5N2ATU)



Mario, YU2IU, was the operator at YU7LAA in the U.S. pavilion at the International Trade Fair in Zagreb, Yugoslavia. (Tnx K9EAB)

NV, NX, OA, OB, OC, OG, OI, ON, OP, OQ, OR, OU, OX, OZ, PA, PB, PD, PF, PL, PM AND PQ are counted as OH9 stations if contacted before June 1st, 1954. (Tnx K9IAP)

Rules for W.A.G.I. Certificate

This certificate is issued by the *Gee Eye Magazine* to promote contacts with Northern Ireland Amateurs. The rules are as follows:-

1. Stations outside Europe to submit Five cards in all—One from Co. Antrim, Co. Armagh, Co. Derry, Co. Down and One from either Co. Tyrone or Co. Fermanagh.

2. European stations to submit ten cards in all—Two from each of the above areas.

3. Belfast is divided by the River Lagan into Counties Down and Antrim.

4. Operation may be on any band and/or any mode of transmission.

5. Certificates will be endorsed for one band and/or one mode of transmission. Unendorsed certificates will indicate mixed operation.

6. Cards are valid for contacts made on or after 1st January, 1959.

7. The cost which must be included with each application is 5/-, one dollar or 10 IRC's.

8. All applications and inquiries to be addressed to the Certificate Manager, Stan Orr, GI3KVQ, 63 Union Place, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland.. (Tnx GI3KVQ)

Requirements for Okinawa A.R.C. Award

This award is given for having made contacts with amateur radio stations located on Okinawa by either phone (A3) or c.w. (A1) or combination thereof. The certificate will be endorsed accordingly. The number of contacts required is determined by the zone in which you are located as indicated below. QSL cards need not be sent in to obtain this award. An extract of your log showing date, time, call sign and mode of operation, which has been certified by one of your radio club official, will be acceptable.

25 contacts required from zones 24, 25 and 27.

10 contacts required from zones 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38, 39 and 36 south of the equator.

5 contacts required from zones 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 33, 34, 35, 40 and 36 north of the equator.

5 contacts required from any zone for the following only:-

- Two-way single side bands;
- Above 50 mc;
- Mobile to KR6 fixed station;
- Fixed station to KR6 mobile; or K36 portable;
- Mobile to KR6 mobile.

QTH's and QSL Managers

K1DRN is very sorry but he will not be able to act as QSL manager for FM7WQ. After much effort and time Vernon has received only one brief log sheet from FM7WQ.

AP2Q Box 65 Lahor, Dest

Pakistan

CN8MB David Minton

Navy 214 Box 16 c/o

Fleet Post Office, N.Y.,

N.Y.

CN90K Box 124 Tetuan

Morroco

CR9AH via W7ZAS

DL4BM Merle Anclair 181

USAS Co. APO 108

N.Y., N.Y.

EA8BA via W4MXL

EP2AF c/o American

Embassy APO 205 N.Y.,

N.Y. or American

Embassy, Tehran, Iran

FF8BF Charles Tenot Box

971 Dakar Senegal,

W. Africa

FF8CW via W2VCZ

FK8AS Achille Poulet

Aerodrome de Tontouta,

New Caledonia

FQ8AW Box 298

Brazzaville, Rep

de Congo

FQ8HO via K6EC

FQ8HP Box 41

Brazzaville, Rep

de Congo

FY7YI via W3AYD

JT1KAB Box 639 Ulan

Bator M.P.R.

K6QQV/KS Box 11 Pago

Pago

K0SLD/KW6 box 68

Wake Is.

KA5MC MARS Radio

Station, Special

Services 1st MAW, c/o

FPO San Francisco,

Calif.

OR4TX via ON4 Bureau

OR4TZ via ON4 Bureau

PY7LJ Alvaro C.

Pimental, CIA Guardas,

Fernando de Noronha

Island Brazil

PZ1AX via W2CTN

SM5BUG/9Q5 via SSA

SV9WR Larry Mennitt,

USCGC Courier WAGR

410, FPO, New York,

N.Y.

SSV#WZ Via W1FTU

U05PK George A.

Pozernir, Tiraspol,

Moldavia

VK8GU Henry Meyer,

W1MFI, c/o Pickard, &

Burns, Inc., 240

Highland Ave.,

Needham 94, ass.

VP2DU via W3AYD

ex-VP2LU, VP5FP, FM

Perkins, PAA/ROA

Grand Turk, Patrick

AFB, Fla.

VP2VH via W2YTH

VP5AB via W3AYD

VP6WD via W4OPM

VP7NT c/o PAA/GE, San

Salvador, AAFB, c/o

Patrick AFB, Fla.

VP9QQ Box 275,

Hamilton, Bermuda

VQ2AB via W6ZAF

VQ4RF via W4MCM

VQ9A via W4TO

VR3L Christmas Is. Radio

Club, British Forces

Post Office Box 170,

c/o Postmaster,

Honolulu, Hawaii

VS1GZ via W4YWX

VS9AAC via W3KVQ

VS90C

via RSGB or ISWL

VU2JA via W4YWX

Y1MM Box 1561 San

Salvador

ZB1HC via W4MS

ZD9AM via W2CTN

ZS5KB 801 Umgeni Road,

Durban, South Africa

ZS1RM/8 via K2QXG

3V8CA via W4YWX

5N2ATU Box 38, Jos

North Nigeria

601MT Box 897,

Mogadiscio

9G1BG via W2CTN

9Q5EH Box 2124

Elizabethville,

Katanange The Congo

9Q5YM via W8TMA

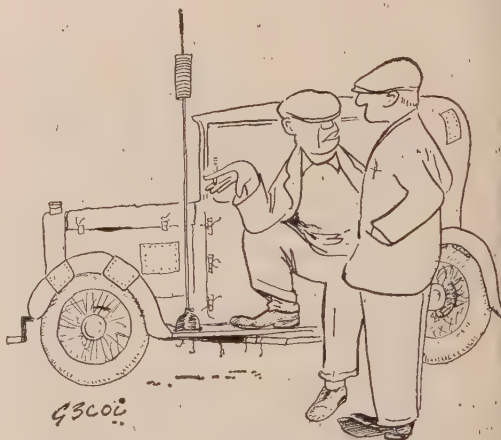
9U5MC Box 78, Kigali,

Ruanda Urundi

9U5PD Box 110 Astrida,

Ruanda Urundi

73, Urb, W2DEC



"I would have put it on the roof but it would spoil the resale value of the car."



CONTEST CALENDAR

by Frank Anzalone, WIWY

14 Sherwood Road, Stamford, Conn.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| March 3—5 | ARRL DX Phone |
| March 11—12 | BERU |
| March 11—12 | YL/OM C.W. |
| March 17—19 | ARRL DX C.W. |
| April 12—13 | YL V.H.F. |
| April 15—16 | REF Phone |
| April 15—16 | Helvetia 22 |
| April 29—30 | PACC C.W. |
| May 6—7 | PACC Phone |

ARRL DX Phone

Starts: 2400 GMT Friday, March 3rd.
Ends: 2400 GMT Sunday, March 5th.

C.W.

Starts: 2400 GMT Friday, March 17th.
Ends: 2400 GMT Sunday, March 19th.

The first section of this two month marathon is already history. If you didn't make hay last month you might try catching up this month. Don't send your logs to us, we would only have to forward them to West Hartford.

BERU

This contest is for resident of the British Empire, so unless you are eligible don't go answering that juicy MP4 or VQ8 when he calls CQ BERU. You might end up in the "Dog House."

YLRL YL/OM CW

Starts: 1300 EST Saturday, March 11th.
Ends: 2400 EST Sunday, March 12th.

Louisa Sando covered this one in her YL Column last month so check it for details.

YL V.H.F.

Starts: 1200 EST Wednesday, April 12th.
Ends: 2400 EST Thursday, April 13th.

This is a new contest for YL (and ex-YLs) only. Being a middle of the week affair the OM would not be able to participate anyway, he's

out bringing home the bacon.

Louisa, W5RZJ, will carry the rules in her YL COLUMN this issue.

REF Phone

Starts: 1400 GMT Saturday, April 15th.
Ends: 2200 GMT Sunday, April 16th.

Rules were covered in last month's CALENDAR. They are quite simple, the usual progressive serial number, each contact counts one point. The multiplier is also one point for each French Department or country (DUF list) worked on each band. i.e. F8DU/78, FA, FB and etc. Your final score of course will be the total QSO points times the total multiplier on all bands.

Your logs go to the R.E.F. Contest Committee, Boite Postale 42-01, Paris RP, France.

Helvetia 22

Starts: 1500 GMT Saturday, April 15th.
Ends: 1700 GMT Sunday, April 16th.

The date for this year's contest has been made later than in past years to avoid it falling on Easter Sunday.

The object of the contest of course is to work as many stations as possible in each of the 22 Swiss Cantons.

1. Use all bands, 3.5 thru 29.7 mc, c.w./c.w. or phone/phone.

2. Serial numbers will be the usual five or six digit variety, signal report plus a progressive 3 figure contact report.

3. Each contact counts 3 points and the same station can be worked twice on each band, once on c.w. and again on phone.

4. The multiplier is the sum of Swiss Cantons worked on each band, c.w. plus phone, making a possible multiplier of 44.

5. Your final score therefore will be the sum of QSO points on all bands, multiplied by the number of Cantons worked on each band.

6. Use a separate log sheet for each band and only one side of the paper.

7. Certificates will be given to the two highest scorers in each country. Each district in the

United States and Canada will be considered as a separate country.

8. Your logs must be postmarked no later than April 31st and should be sent to: The USKA Contest Committee, Knutwil/LU, Switzerland.

| | | | |
|-----------|----|------------|----|
| Zurich | ZH | Scaffhouse | SH |
| Berne | BE | Appencell | AR |
| Lucerne | LU | St. Gall | SG |
| Uri | UR | Argovie | AG |
| Schwyz | SZ | Thurgovie | TG |
| Unterwald | NW | Tessin | TI |
| Glaris | GL | Vaud | VD |
| Zoug | ZG | Valais | VS |
| Fribourg | FR | Neuchatel | NE |
| Soleure | SO | Geneva | GE |
| Basle | BS | Girsson | GR |

Names and abbreviations of Cantons

P A C C C.W.

Starts: 1200 GMT Saturday, April 29th.
Ends: 2000 GMT Sunday, April 30th.

Phone

Starts: 1200 GMT Saturday, May 6th.
Ends: 2000 GMT Sunday, May 7th.

This is the 6th Annual PACC Contest held by the VERON, in which the outside world is invited to work as many PA stations as possible during the contest period.

1. Activity on all bands, 3.5 thru 28 mc.
2. Usual five and six digit serial number, RS or RST report plus a progressive QSO number starting with 001.
3. Three points per QSO, and each station can be worked once on each band.
4. The multiplier is determined by the number of provinces worked on each band.
5. The final score therefore will be the sum of QSO points times the number of provinces worked on each band.
6. Certificates will be awarded to the highest scorer in each country. In the case of CE, PY, VE/VO, W/K, ZL and ZS each district will receive an award.

7. The PA stations will identify their provinces by two letters after their number. The provinces, eleven in all are:

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----|---------------|
| FR | Friesland | UT | Utrecht |
| GR | Groningen | LB | Limburg |
| DR | Drente | NH | Noord-Holland |
| NB | Noord-Brabant | ZH | Zuid-Holland |
| OV | Overijssel | ZL | Zeeland |
| GD | Gelderland | | |

Contest contacts can also be applied toward the PACC Certificate which requires proof of having worked 100 different PA stations.

Mail your logs no later than June 15, 1961 to: P.v.d.Berg, Contest Manager, Keizerstraat 54, Gouda, Netherlands.

That's about it for this month. I'll have a

preliminary report on our own contest next month.

73 for now, Frank, W1WY

Results 1960 REF Contest C.W.

USA Entries and Winners

| | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|----|
| W1WY | 201 | K4HPR | 36 |
| W1AQE | 189 | K1DRX | 24 |
| WA2DGG | 150 | K2YAZ | 24 |
| W4HQN | 129 | W2CVW | 21 |
| W8AYS | 90 | W5LCF | 15 |
| W8RQ | 87 | W5KC | 12 |
| K9GVE | 84 | W8KC | 12 |
| K4TFL | 60 | W1NLM | 9 |
| W8TQY | 60 | W6BIL | 9 |
| W0MCX | 51 | W3YHR | 3 |
| W7PQE | 42 | | |

European Winners

| | | | |
|--------|-----|--------|-----|
| UB5WF | 363 | UC2KAA | 172 |
| DM2ABL | 306 | UN1KAA | 99 |
| HB9DX | 278 | SM3VE | 84 |
| UR2KAE | 249 | TF3AB | 84 |
| SP6FZ | 240 | OH2FS | 51 |
| UA1KAQ | 213 | HA8KCU | 45 |
| OK1RX | 204 | PA0WAC | 45 |
| YU1SF | 204 | OZ4RT | 21 |
| G3EYN | 174 | YO3AC | 18 |
| UP2AC | 174 | | |

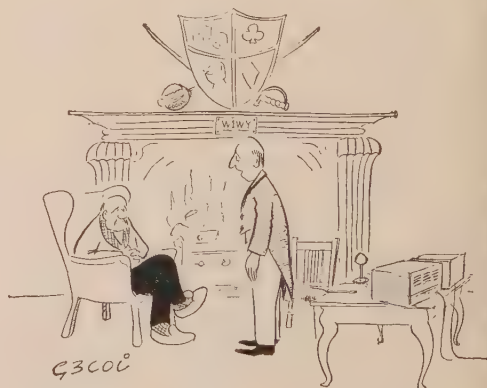
All Other Countries

| | | | |
|-------|----|--------|----|
| VE1FK | 90 | XE1PG | 48 |
| VE1AE | 75 | VE1DB | 42 |
| PY4AO | 57 | VE2AFC | 30 |

Phone

Winners—All Countries

| | | | |
|-------|-----|--------|-----|
| OQ5VH | 920 | SM5BPJ | 138 |
| OQ0PD | 840 | HA5DG | 126 |
| I1FMC | 480 | HB9DX | 90 |
| 4X4FZ | 402 | LA5IG | 81 |
| EA7JT | 222 | DM3FE | 66 |
| SP5XM | 218 | G3NAC | 39 |
| CT1KF | 210 | GW3LAD | 24 |
| PA0NN | 162 | VQ8BA | 12 |
| YU1SF | 153 | | |



"Should I put out the carbon or crystal mike M'lord?"

PROPAGATION

George Jacobs, W3ASK
11307 Clara St., Silver Spring, Md.



LAST MINUTE FORECAST

The forecast indices for the month of March, shown in the Propagation Charts following the predicted times of openings, are expected to be related to day-to-day propagation conditions in the following manner:

| Forecast Indices | Above Normal | Normal | Below Normal | |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | Days March 1-2 | Days March 3-10, 22-31 | Days March 11-13, 19-21 | Days March 14-18 |
| (1) | C-D | D-E | E | E |
| (2) | B-C | D | E | E |
| (3) | A-B | C | D-E | E |
| (4) | A | A-B | B-C | C-D |

Where:

- A—Excellent circuit with strong steady signals.
- B—Good circuit, moderately strong signals, with some fading and noise.
- C—Fair circuit, signals fluctuating between moderately strong and weak, with moderate fading and noise.
- D—Poor circuit, signals weak, with considerable fading and very high noise level.
- E—Circuit not possible.

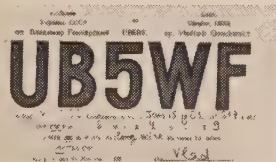
During March, especially on disturbed or below normal days, there is a tendency for widespread auroral displays to occur.

FLASH

As predicted in this column, DX conditions on 160 meters are improving rapidly. W1BB reports conditions as "hot as a firecracker" during January with several openings to

Europe and Latin America. Contact for the first time on this band was made between the eastern

USA and the Soviet Union (W1ME-UB5WF) and between the eastern USA and Haiti (W1BB-HH2V). More on this next month.



General Conditions

During the months of March and April, the sun is overhead in equatorial regions as it continues its apparent travels into northern skies. This solar phenomenon has a significant influence on shortwave (high frequency) radio propagation conditions.

As the sun rises higher into northern skies, it has a much greater heating effect on the earth's atmosphere. As the temperature of the ionosphere in the northern hemisphere increases, gases existing in this region of the earth's atmosphere expand. This expansion results in a decrease in ionospheric density, with a corresponding decrease in the ability of the ionosphere to reflect high frequency radio waves during the daytime hours. For this reason, considerably fewer 10 meter openings are expected to many areas of the world than occurred during the winter months.

While 15 meters is expected to be the best band for DX during the daytime hours, fewer openings also are predicted for this band. Peak conditions on both 10 and 15 meters should occur somewhat later in the day than during the winter months.

The increasing hours of daylight, as the sun rises higher in the northern sky, brings with it greater ionospheric absorption and higher static levels. This is expected to result in weaker signals, and somewhat poorer DX conditions, on 40, 80 and 160 meters, although some fairly good openings still should be possible on these bands during the hours of darkness.

With longer hours of daylight, 20 meters is expected to remain open later into the evening hours during March and April. This will probably be the best band for DX during the sunrise and sunset periods.

During the spring months (autumn in the southern hemisphere), somewhat of an "equalization effect" takes place for propagation conditions between the northern and southern hemispheres. DX openings between both hemispheres are expected to improve during March and April, with the improvement most likely to occur on 20 and 40 meters during the sunrise and sunset periods, and to a lesser extent on the other bands.

MARCH-APRIL, 1961

TIME ZONE: CST & MST, Con'd.

TIME ZONE: EST

EASTERN USA TO:

| | 10 Meters | 15 Meters | 20 Meters | 40/80* Meters |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Western Europe | 8 A - 10A (1) 10A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 4 P (1) | 7 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 11A (2) 11A - 1 P (3) 1 P - 3 P (4) 3 P - 4 P (3) 4 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 7 P (1) | 5 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 1 P (1) 1 P - 4 P (2) 4 P - 6 P (4) 6 P - 8 P (3) 8 P - 11P (2) 11P - 2 A (1) 11P - 1 A (1)* | 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 10P (4) 10P - 11P (3) 11P - 2 A (2) 2 A - 4 A (1) 8 P - 11P (2)* 11P - 1 A (1)* |
| Eastern Europe | 9 A - 1 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 12N (2) 12N - 3 P (1) | 7 P - 11P (1) | 8 P - 11P (1) |
| North Africa | 7 A - 11A (1) 11A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 4 P (1) | 6 A - 12N (2) 12N - 1 P (3) 1 P - 3 P (4) 3 P - 4 P (3) 4 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 7 P (1) | 5 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 1 P (1) 1 P - 3 P (2) 3 P - 7 P (4) 7 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 10P (2) 10P - 2 A (1) 10P - 1 A (1)* | 6 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 11P (3) 11P - 1 A (2) 1 A - 2 A (1) 7 P - 11P (2)* 11P - 12M (1)* |
| South Africa | 7 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 11A (3) 11A - 1 P (3) 1 P - 3 P (2) 3 P - 4 P (1) | 6 A - 10A (1) 10A - 3 P (4) 3 P - 4 P (4) 4 P - 5 P (3) 5 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 8 P (1) | 1 P - 3 P (1) 3 P - 4 P (2) 4 P - 6 P (3) 6 P - 10P (2) 10P - 12M (1) 12M - 3 A (2) 3 A - 5 A (1) | 7 P - 10P (1) 7 P - 9 P (1)* |
| Eastern Mediterranean | 9 A - 1 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 11A (2) 11A - 1 P (3) 1 P - 2 P (2) 2 P - 5 P (1) | 11A - 5 P (1) 5 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 12M (1) | 6 P - 11P (1) |
| Central Asia | 9 A - 12N (1) 5 P - 7 P (1) | 8 A - 12N (1) 5 P - 8 P (1) | 8 A - 9 A (1) 6 P - 11P (1) | 6 P - 9 P (1) 4 A - 6 A (1) |
| Southeast Asia | 1 P - 4 P (1) | 10A - 1 P (1) 6 P - 8 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 10A (1) 5 P - 8 P (1) | NIL |
| Far East | 5 P - 7 P (1) | 8 A - 10A (1) 4 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 10P - 7 A (1) 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (1) | 4 A - 8 A (1) |
| Pacific Islands | 12N - 3 P (2) 3 P - 4 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 8 A - 10A (2) 10A - 6 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 11P (1) | 7 P - 9 P (1) 9 P - 1 A (2) 1 A - 4 A (3) 4 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 10A (2) 10A - 12N (1) | 3 A - 6 A (2) 6 A - 8 A (1) 3 A - 5 A (1)* |
| Australia | 8 A - 11A (1) 3 P - 4 P (1) 7 P - 9 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 9 A - 11A (2) 11A - 1 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 11P (1) | 10P - 12M (1) 12M - 7 A (2) 7 A - 8 A (3) 8 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 12N (1) | 4 A - 8 A (2) 8 A - 9 A (1) 5 A - 7 A (1)* |
| New Zealand | 2 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 8 A - 10A (1) 3 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 10P (2) 10P - 3 A (1) | 7 P - 9 P (1) 9 P - 12M (1) 12M - 2 A (3) 2 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 8 A (3) 8 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 1 P (1) | 2 A - 6 A (2) 6 A - 7 A (1) 3 A - 6 A (1)* |
| South America | 7 A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 3 P (3) 3 P - 5 P (4) 5 P - 7 P (8) 8 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 6 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 4 P (3) 4 P - 7 P (4) 7 P - 10P (3) 10P - 2 A (2) | 4 A - 8 A (2) 8 A - 3 P (1) 3 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 1 A (4) 1 A - 4 A (3) 4 A - 8 A (3) 8 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 1 P (1) | 7 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 3 A (3) 3 A - 4 A (2) 8 P - 3 A (2)* |
| McMurdo Sound, Antarctica | 4 P - 8 P (1) | 2 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (3) 8 P - 10P (2) 10P - 12M (1) | 4 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 12M (3) 12M - 8 A (2) 8 A - 9 A (1) | 10P - 1 A (1) |

TIME ZONE: CST & MST

CENTRAL USA TO:

| | 10 Meters | 15 Meters | 20 Meters | 40/80* Meters |
|----------------|---------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Western Europe | 10A - 2 P (1) | 8 A - 10A (2) 10A - 12N (3) 12N - 3 P (2) 3 P - 5 P (1) | 5 A - 7 A (1) 1 P - 4 P (1) 4 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 12M (1) | 8 P - 12M (2) 9 P - 11P (1)* |
| Eastern Europe | 9 A - 11A (1) | 8 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 11A (2) 11A - 1 P (1) | 12N - 3 P (1) 3 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 12M (1) | 8 P - 12M (1) |

CENTRAL USA TO:

| | 10 Meters | 15 Meters | 20 Meters | 40/80* Meters |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| North Africa | 8 A - 10A (1) 10A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 3 P (1) | 7 A - 10A (1) 10A - 12N (2) 12N - 2 P (3) 2 P - 4 P (2) 4 P - 6 P (1) | 10A - 12N (1) 12N - 2 P (2) 2 P - 3 P (3) 3 P - 5 P (4) 5 P - 6 P (3) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 2 A (1) | 7 P - 10P (2) 8 P - 10P (1)* |
| Central Africa | 8 A - 12N (2) 12N - 3 P (2) 3 P - 5 P (2) | 7 A - 11A (1) 11A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 3 P (3) 3 P - 5 P (4) 5 P - 6 P (3) 6 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 9 P (1) | 11A - 3 P (1) 3 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 10P (3) 10P - 12M (2) 12M - 2 A (1) | 8 P - 11P (1) 9 P - 10P (1)* |
| Eastern Mediterranean | 8 A - 12N (1) | 8 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 12N (2) 12N - 2 P (1) | 3 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 12M (1) | 7 P - 10P (1) |
| Central Asia | 8 A - 10A (1) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 8 A - 10A (2) 10A - 12N (1) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (1) 11A - 6 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 10P (1) | 7 P - 9 P (1) 4 A - 6 A (1) |
| Southeast Asia | 10A - 2 P (1) | 10A - 12N (2) 12N - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (1) 9 P - 12M (1) | NIL |
| Far East | 3 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | 8 A - 11A (1) 3 P - 5 P (1) 4 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 11P (1) | 11P - 7 A (1) 7 A - 8 A (2) 8 A - 12N (1) | 3 A - 7 A (1) |
| Pacific Islands | 11A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 10P (1) | 10A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 11P (2) 11P - 3 A (1) | 10A - 8 P (1) 3 P - 11P (2) 11P - 5 A (3) 5 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 8 A (3) 8 A - 10A (2) | 12M - 6 A (3) 6 A - 8 A (1) 1 A - 6 A (2)* |
| Australia | 8 A - 11A (1) 1 P - 3 P (1) 3 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 10P (1) | 8 A - 11A (2) 5 P - 6 P (1) 5 P - 11P (2) 11P - 1 A (1) | 11A - 9 P (1) 9 P - 1 A (2) 1 A - 4 A (3) 4 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 8 A (3) 8 A - 11A (2) | 5 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 9 A (1) 5 A - 7 A (1)* |
| New Zealand | 11A - 4 P (2) 4 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 9 P (1) | 7 A - 11A (1) 11A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 11P (2) 11P - 3 A (1) | 11A - 8 P (1) 8 P - 11P (2) 11P - 3 A (4) 3 A - 5 A (5) 5 A - 11A (2) | 12M - 7 A (2) 1 A - 7 A (1)* |
| South America | 7 A - 10A (3) 7 A - 9 A (2) 1 P - 3 P (4) 3 P - 5 P (3) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 6 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 2 P (2) 2 P - 4 P (3) 4 P - 7 P (4) 7 P - 10P (3) 10P - 1 A (2) 1 A - 2 A (1) | 8 A - 2 P (1) 2 P - 9 A (2) 6 P - 11P (4) 11P - 3 A (3) 3 A - 8 A (2) | 7 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 1 A (3) 1 A - 4 A (2) 9 P - 2 A (2)* |
| McMurdo Sound, Antarctica | 1 P - 4 P (1) 4 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 12N - 4 P (1) 4 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 10P (2) 10P - 12M (1) | 4 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 2 A (3) 3 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 11A (1) | 8 P - 12M (1) |

TIME ZONE: PST

WESTERN USA TO:

| | 10 Meters | 15 Meters | 20 Meters | 40/80* Meters |
|----------------|---------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Western Europe | 8 A - 12N (1) | 6 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (3) 11A - 12N (2) 12N - 2 P (1) | 6 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 1 P (1) 1 P - 4 P (2) 4 P - 2 A (1) | 7 P - 12M (1) 8 P - 11P (1)* |
| Eastern Europe | NIL | 6 A - 7 A (1) 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (1) | 6 A - 8 A (2) 8 A - 1 P (1) 1 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 10P (1) 10P - 12M (2) 12M - 2 A (1) | 7 P - 10P (1) |
| North Africa | 9 A - 12N (1) | 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 12N (3) 12N - 1 P (2) 1 P - 3 P (1) | 6 A - 11A (1) 11A - 3 P (2) 3 P - 6 P (3) 6 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 2 A (1) | 7 P - 9 P (1) 7 P - 9 P (1)* |

WESTERN USA TO:

| | 10 Meters | 15 Meters | 20 Meters | 40/80* Meters |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| South Africa | 7 A - 9 A (2) 9 A - 11A (3) 11A - 12N (2) 12N - 2 P (1) | 6 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 3 P (3) 3 P - 5 P (1) | 10A - 12N (1) 12N - 4 P (2) 4 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 9 P (1) 9 P - 11P (2) 11P - 1 A (1) | 7 P - 9 P (1) |
| Eastern Mediterranean | 8 A - 11A (1) | 7 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 10A (2) 10A - 12N (1) | 6 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 10A (2) 10A - 7 P (1) 7 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 10P (1) | NIL |
| Central Asia | 9 A - 11A (1) 5 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 8 A - 11A (1) 4 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 6 P (2) 8 P - 9 P (1) | 7 A - 8 A (2) 8 A - 10A (1) 6 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 9 P (1) | NIL |
| Southeast Asia | 9 A - 12N (1) 3 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 8 P (1) | 8 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 12N (2) 12N - 4 P (1) 4 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 10P (1) | 12M - 7 A (1) 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 11A (2) 11A - 1 P (1) | 4 A - 7 A (1) |
| Far East | 1 P - 2 P (1) 2 P - 3 P (2) 3 P - 5 P (3) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 8 P (1) | 7 A - 9 A (1) 1 P - 3 P (1) 3 P - 5 P (3) 5 P - 6 P (3) 6 P - 7 P (4) 7 P - 8 P (3) 8 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 10P (1) | 7 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 10A (4) 10A - 11A (3) 11A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 7 P (1) 7 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 11P (3) 11P - 3 A (1) | 2 A - 6 A (3) 6 A - 8 A (1) 3 A - 6 A (2)* |
| Pacific Islands & New Zealand | 9 A - 10A (1) 10A - 1 P (3) 1 P - 5 P (2) 6 P - 8 P (4) 8 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 11P (1) | 8 A - 9 A (1) 9 A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 5 P (1) 5 P - 7 P (2) 7 P - 10P (4) 10P - 1 A (2) 1 A - 3 A (1) | 11A - 6 P (1) 6 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 2 A (4) 2 A - 4 A (2) 4 A - 7 A (1) 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 11A (2) | 11P - 5 A (3) 5 A - 7 A (1) 12M - 5 A (2)* |
| Australia | 8 A - 10A (1) 12N - 1 P (1) 1 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 10P (1) | 8 A - 10A (2) 9 A - 1 P (2) 12N - 7 P (2) 7 P - 10P (3) 10P - 11P (2) 11P - 2 A (1) | 7 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 12N (2) 12N - 9 P (1) 9 P - 12M (2) 12M - 2 A (4) 2 A - 5 A (2) 5 A - 7 A (1) | 3 A - 6 A (3) 6 A - 8 A (1) 4 A - 6 A (2)* |
| South America | 6 A - 8 A (1) 8 A - 9 A (3) 9 A - 1 P (2) 1 P - 3 P (4) 3 P - 5 P (2) 5 P - 8 P (1) | 5 A - 7 A (2) 7 A - 1 P (1) 1 P - 3 P (2) 3 P - 6 P (4) 6 P - 8 P (3) 8 P - 9 P (2) 9 P - 2 A (1) | 2 P - 4 P (2) 4 P - 7 P (3) 7 P - 11P (4) 11P - 2 A (3) 2 A - 6 A (2) 6 A - 2 P (1) | 8 P - 12M (3) 12M - 2 A (2) 2 A - 3 A (1) 9 P - 2 A (2)* |
| McMurdo Sound, Antarctica | 10A - 2 P (1) 2 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 8 P (1) | 10A - 4 P (1) 4 P - 6 P (2) 6 P - 9 P (3) 9 P - 10P (2) 10P - 12M (1) | 4 P - 6 P (1) 6 P - 8 P (2) 8 P - 12M (3) 12M - 3 A (2) 3 A - 10A (1) | 8 P - 6 A (1) |

FORECAST INDICES

Circuits Forecast to open:

- (1) Less than 7 days during each month of forecast period.
- (2) Between 8 and 13 days during each month of forecast period.
- (3) Between 14 and 22 days during each month of forecast period.
- (4) For more than 22 days during each month of forecast period.

A - A. M. P - P. M. N - Noon M - Midnight

See "Last Minute Forecast" in the text for the relationship between the Forecast Indices and the day-to-day propagation conditions expected during the month.

*Indices expected 80-meter openings. On nights when atmospheric noise conditions are exceptionally quiet, 160-meter openings are likely to occur on circuits through those times 80-meter openings are rated (2) or higher.

The CQ DX Propagation Charts are based upon a CW effective radiated power of 150 watts at radiation angles less than thirty degrees. The Eastern USA chart can be used in the W1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 areas; the Central USA chart is the W5, 9 and 8 areas, and the Western USA chart in the W6 and 7 areas. The charts are valid through April 30, 1961. Propagation forecasts contained in these charts are derived from basic ionospheric data published by the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory of the National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado.

Auroral displays are known to occur more often during March and April than during the winter months, and coincident with these displays there is a greater tendency for severe and prolonged ionospheric disturbances, or radio storms, to take place. During auroral displays, ionospheric openings for distances up to approx-

imately 1300 miles may be possible on the 6 and 2 meter bands.

Although it is not yet certain, there appears to be a definite tendency for trans-equatorial scatter openings to increase sharply during March and April, resulting in 6 and 10 meter openings to South America (from the USA) during the early evening hours.

Meteor-type ionospheric openings are likely to occur on both 10 and 6 meters during March 10-12 and March 20th, when minor meteor showers are expected.

This month's *Propagation Charts* contain predictions for the major DX paths for the months of March and April. See the "Last Minute Forecast" appearing at the head of this column, for day-to-day conditions expected during March.

Sunspot Number

The Zurich Solar Observatory reports a monthly average sunspot number of 83 for December, 1960. This results in a 12-month running smoothed number of 112, centered on June, 1960. A smoothed sunspot number of 87 is predicted for March 1961, as the present cycle continues to decline.

The Sunspot Story

In 1956¹, *CQ* featured a two-part article by its Propagation Editor entitled, "The Sunspot Story; Cycle 19—Once In a Lifetime Conditions." The article discussed the then approaching solar maximum and its possible influence on conditions in the various amateur bands. The author predicted that the peak of cycle 19 would be of unprecedented intensity, and would result in shortwave radio conditions that would be better than they had ever been in the history of radio.

Among the more daring predictions made, and all of which eventually came to pass between 1957 and 1960, were included the possibilities of world-wide DX on six meters, around-the-clock DX on twenty meters, direct reception of European and Latin American TV broadcasts causing interference in the USA, and in general, conditions which occur very seldom, perhaps only once in a lifetime.

With record-breaking solar activity now a matter of history, the present sunspot cycle has started to decline, and it is natural to ask "what now?", and "where do we go from here?". To answer these questions, and to give as complete a picture as possible as to what conditions might be like on the amateur bands in the years ahead, *CQ* has commissioned its Propagation Editor, W3ASK, to collaborate with Stanley Leinwoll on a sequel to the 1956 report. Mr. Leinwoll is the author of the popular book, *Shortwave Propagation*.²

The Jacobs-Leinwoll report is now complete.

[Continued on page 108]

¹Part I appeared in March, 1956; Part II in June, '56.

²Leinwoll, S., *Shortwave Propagation*, published by J. F. Rider, N. Y.



ham clinic

CHARLES J. SCHAUERS, F7FE/W6QLV

C.Q. Magazine, 300 West 43rd St., New York 36, N. Y.

What Questions?

Evidently there are some hams who read HAM CLINIC who wonder how the questions which appear in this column are chosen. Well, first of all, we try to keep track of "major interest" queries; and as soon as we receive at least ten letters on a subject, it is given priority of publication. Then we consider the unusual questions which we believe to be of general interest. Next in line are the questions which seem to indicate considerable interest in a specific piece of equipment. Then as we sort through incoming correspondence, we keep in mind the *service* aspects of the column.

Some of the questions received are hum-dingers! These are the questions which require more than just a little research and often, much letter writing. Sometimes the answer is in the negative, for if we could answer *every* technical question asked, we would no doubt now be in heavenly orbit! Being human we can and do make mistakes.

But usually, if the question is on ham radio, there is an answer somewhere and we try to find it. Our technical information resources are numerous, and for the stickiest questions we depend upon expert ham friends who are engineers, instructors and electronic specialists. (And believe it or not, they are sometimes stumped too—which indicates that no one can know it all!)

I think what frustrates us more than anything is to receive a letter containing a question which has already been answered in the column. This extra work of making reference to already published material denies someone else a quick reply.

Then there are questions which are adequately covered in the ARRL *Handbook* or other readily available texts. Of course, we realize that not every ham has a handbook, but we feel he should have one.

Many questions are received from commercial firms . . . these are simply *not* answered, even for a fee.

HAM CLINIC service is free to all hams and one need not be a regular subscriber to enjoy it.

Now we have a question to all of you: how would you like to be able to buy for a very

small amount of money, a book containing all of the HAM CLINIC material (as re-edited) which has appeared in CQ? If you think this is a good idea, drop the editor a card telling him so. Only *he* can decide whether or not the venture is worthwhile.

We feel that because of the gigantic increase in CQ readership, those new subscribers who have missed many of the columns would indeed be interested; as well of course, as the old faithful readers who want all the HAM CLINIC information under one cover. If such a book comes out it would be revised from year to year.

On Taylor Modulation

Evidently those interested in the old as well as the new *do* read HAM CLINIC. Our request for more information on the modulation system by Taylor certainly brought in the mail—gobs of it!

Most of those writing in said they had not tried the system but were still interested. Others said they had heard it and it was terrific!

Because of the large number of letters on the subject, we will not answer them via private correspondence, but will in future issues include as much *new* information as we can round up on actual practical utilization.

Thank you so much fellows, for coming to our rescue. Our research did miss the articles in *Radio News* (now *Electronics World*) and it's a nice feeling to know that we can depend upon our readers to give us a helping hand now and then.

Questions

Heath TX-1—"What is the probable cause of the final grid current changing value even when there is no modulation and the final amplified plate voltage is not on? I have a Heath TX-1. I thought it might be a bad clamp tube or gassy 6146's but evidently not. What should I check?"

Replace that little 47 mmf bypass condenser on the choke in the grids of the final 6146's. Bet this is your trouble.

Voltage Divider—"Why are individual resistors usually used in some high voltage power supply divider systems?"

To prevent arc-over of the bleeder resistors

Beam Use—"Any regulation that says I can't use my 10 meter beam antenna for 11 meter C.B. work?"

No, but remember that the antenna when thus used cannot be over 20 feet above supporting structures.

Little Space Antenna—"Would you recommend an antenna to me (not a beam) which I can mount in my attic for 10, 15 and 20 meters? I have exactly 42 foot of attic space. My transmitter is a Lafayette Voyager."

Try Mosley's TD-3 Jr. It will mount in 24 feet of space, weighs 1¾ pounds, and sells for only \$12.50. You can obtain either a 10, 15 and 20 meter model or a 10, 15 and 40 meter model.

V.F.O. Microphonics—"I note that when I zero beat my receiver to my v.f.o. frequency that when I tap the v.f.o. case I can hear the pounding in the receiver loudspeaker. Set seems to work fine though. What gives here?"

Probably a microphonic tube and/or poor mechanical component mounting. "Vibrational modulation" is not unknown. Suggest you replace the tube first and then check all connections. Seems to me that you might have some frequency instability along with this too.

Connections (Breadboard)—"Besides using alligator clips and twisting wires together when working on breadboard models in the school electronics lab, do you have any other suggestions for joining wires?"

Yes. I use short "gold-plated" bobby pins and dress eye fasteners (plain) to which leads of various lengths have been carefully soldered. They work fine.

Ranger and SB-10—"How does the Viking Ranger work with the Heath SB-10 adaptor for s.s.b. operation? Is the matching job a difficult one?"

It works fine and it's difficult to distinguish the fine signal it puts out from a rig using two 6146's in the final.

The instructions for combining the DX-40 and the SB-10 are, in general, applicable to the

Ranger. I do, however, advise the use of a good sturdy ceramic section switch for a.m., c.w. and s.s.b. switching.

I have had so many letters relative to using the SB-10 with various transmitters that I have decided to give you what I consider to be the *easiest* approach to marrying the SB-10 to nearly any transmitter which requires less than 10 watts of r.f. drive to the final amplifier tube grids (class AB-1).

First of all, you must have for the SB-10, 350 volts d.c. at a minimum of 140 ma (85 ma average). Filament voltage requirements are 6.3 volts a.c. at 3.5 amps. The power supply should be well filtered and for good dynamic regulation should have at least 40 mf output capacitance.

After you have made the necessary power supply connections to the SB-10, you are now ready to make some slight modifications in your transmitter.

The first thing to do is mount two female coaxial connectors on the transmitter chassis so that one is close to the output (plate) circuit of the driver (the tube driving for example: 6146's, 4D32, 807's, 829, 6DQ6's, 813 etc.). The other connector should be installed close to the grid input of the final amplifier tube(s).

Now, if you want to retain a.m. capability, you must be able to switch the output of the driver to either the grid of the final *or* to the SB-10. At the same time, switch connections should be made so that the final can be placed in AB-1 operation with the connection of bias (depending on the final tube). The screen voltage to the final *must* be stabilized. A couple of regulator tubes such as the OB2, VR105 etc. can be used in series to accomplish this.

Final amplifier operating bias may be obtained (in most cases) from a small transformer and a couple of silicon diodes.

All of the tubes mentioned above can be driven easily with the SB-10. Keep in mind however, that too much drive deteriorates s.s.b. operation and does not accomplish a thing. As long as the relative power output meter on the SB-10

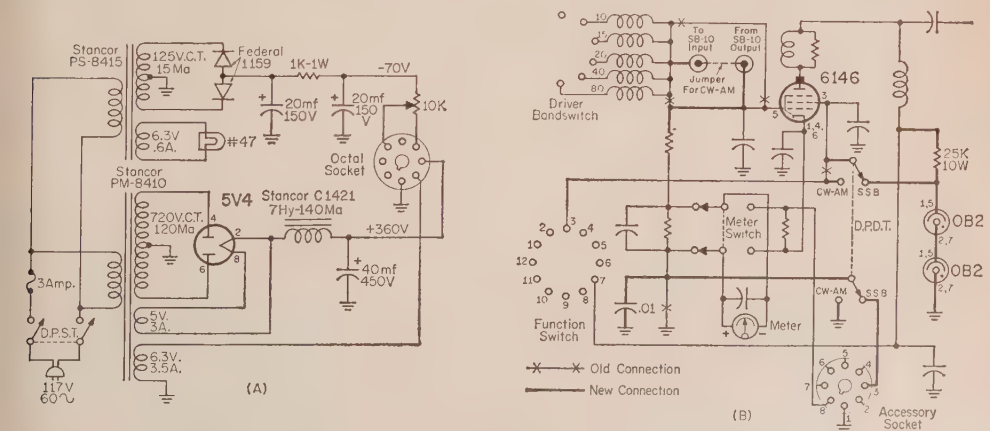


Fig. 1—(A) Power supply suitable for use with the Heath SB-10 and DX-40. (B) Diagram illustrating changes necessary in the Heath DX-40 for use with the SB-10.

reads up to 50 when driving a pair of 6146's, s.s.b. output will be clean.

Then, of course, switch connections are made between the coaxial connectors, driver plate, final grid and SB-10 output.

Referring to the modifications for converting the Heath DX-40 transmitter for s.s.b. operation (fig. 1), you will see that the separate power supply furnishes high voltage and filament voltage to the SB-10 and bias voltage to the DX-40. Nothing complicated about this. The modifications in the final and driver stages of the transmitter require little effort.

Remember that oscillator stage frequency stability is a *must*! If you are in doubt as to the stability of your v.f.o., use crystals! However, in transmitters like Collins 32V series and other fine sets, there is no worry about frequency stability.

To determine how much bias is needed for your particular transmitter output stage to run it class AB-1, refer to a radio handbook or Stoner's *S.S.B. Handbook* which I heartily recommend everyone read before trying s.s.b.

The vox control circuits in the SB-10 present no problem and there is sufficient information supplied with the SB-10 to connect them up so that any receiver may be used with any transmitter.

For more information on the SB-10, see *HAM CLINIC* for October 1959 and November 1959. **HT-32**—"How come the final 6146's in the HT-32 require only a -49 volts bias while another transmitter using the same tubes provides for a -52 volts for s.s.b. operation?"

I don't think the difference is enough to quibble about. Both evidently are operating in Class AB-1 and are adjusted to take maximum advantage of the 6146's maximum plate dissipation. **HQ-170**—"I have a Hammarlund HQ-170 receiver, and like many others, I must say I am very pleased with the set. However, the other day just before it went dead, an awful scratchy hum came from the loudspeaker and a recently installed fuse blew. I thought it might be a little line trouble so I installed another fuse. With the set out of the cabinet I turned it on and there was some flashing in the rectifier tube then this fuse also went west! I changed the rectifier tube, replaced the fuse and it blew again. Can you give me some info relative to what I should look for?"

First, I would advise you to take the set to an authorized service agency if you do not have sufficient test equipment and overall know-how to trouble shoot this set. The first components I would suspect would be the filter capacitors. First discharge them with a screwdriver to ground; then disconnect them. Take a good ohmmeter and check them for a major short. Bet this is your trouble. If it is not, I suggest you check each power supply component (including transformer) for shorts. Of course, the short may be in another section of the set too (if it isn't in the power supply). But I am inclined to think it is a shorted filter capacitor.

Oscillation—"I built up a little pre-selector using a 6C4, but all it does is oscillate. Any hints as to what might be wrong?"

My crystal ball is a little fogged up on this one. I would suggest first that you consider neutralizing the little triode. Next, make sure input and output circuits are properly shielded from each other. Next, make certain that your plate voltage is not too high. I'd advise using a tube like the 6BA6 which would not need neutralization.

S.S.B. Final—"I have a little s.s.b. exciter which I designed and constructed that has a little more than 5 watts output. I'd like to build up a final using only one tube in class AB-1. I have 1300 volts at 250 ma available and up to 600 volts regulated for the screen of a final. I also have up to -125 volts for bias. Please suggest a tube which will give me the "mostest for the leastest."

Sure. Try RCA's 7270. This high perveance tube will work like a charm with your little rig.

Observation

The world knows that the United States of America has helped many nations in need with millions of dollars. With but few exceptions the little people of these nations *know* from where their help came. Our foreign aid program is geared to helping less fortunate nations stay free and independent, and out of the clutches of certain nations whose aims are tied in with world domination.

In addition to the help extended overseas by our government as a whole, America's hams have been and *are* doing their share. Not only through the taxes they must pay but also on a very personal basis, America's hams not only create goodwill through their DX contacts (person-to-person) but many of them are actually helping less fortunate hams in other lands to operate on the ham bands and pursue a hobby that contributes to international goodwill and understanding.

In the October 1960 issue of *CQ* (page 97) we asked for the names of those DX hams interested in obtaining Barker and Williamson 2Q4 phase shift network so that they could try s.s.b. We also suggested that American hams could volunteer (over the air) to send one of these fine little gadgets to overseas hams. The response was overwhelming!

Many hams wrote in saying that they were sending a 2Q4 to a particular overseas ham and wanted us to know that they thought this was indeed a fine program. Others requested the names of deserving DX hams.

Many foreign hams wrote in requesting 2Q4 help (and we request that they continue to do so). Our backlog of foreign requests at the present writing is not large, but if you American hams will send us your name and QTH and volunteer to send a 2Q4 overseas, we will send you original letters of interested overseas hams (as long as they last). The price of a 2Q4 is small but the rewards could be great!

Observed: hams the world over (with few exceptions) are interested in creating international goodwill and friendship, as well as increasing their technical proficiencies; but HAM CLINIC makes a bow to the American ham for being so generous.

Tip of the Month

From K8JTT comes a tip for those who own Johnson KW Match Boxes. The Johnson KW Match Box has band switching from the front panel, except that for 10 and 15 meters operation, a ground strap must be disconnected from one of the feed-through insulators on the back depending on whether coaxial cable or balanced transmission lines are used.

To overcome this inconvenience, K8JTT mounted a heavy ceramic rotary switch (a surplus item) on an aluminum bracket cut in an inverted "U" form and attached fairly high above the front of the MATCHING capacitor. This bracket was secured to the two top screws of the capacitor frame (which is itself insulated from ground). Number 10 wire rod was then used to accomplish a ground circuit back to the inside connection to the feed-through insulator and to the Match Box cabinet. A shaft, isolated with a small ceramic connector was brought through the front panel. With pointer knob and decals attached, it even improved the appearance of the panel. Thank you, Everett M. Hawley, Jr. Grosse Pointe Woods, 36, Michigan.

Non-Technical Department

Ham Neighbors—"I have been living at the same location for over 15 years without any interference, then along comes a fellow ham with an a.m. k.w., a 60 foot tower and lots of stray r.f. Because he works the same hours I do on the job and then uses his station at approximately the same hours, we have a heck of a time.

"I suggested that we split our operating time but he was adamant about this. So then I suggested that he cut his power down (I only use 100 watts), but he only got angry.

"I have tried operating on other bands when he is on 20 meters but our antennas are just too close; too much shock-excitation I guess.

"Have any of your readers brought you this problem and what did you advise them?"

Well, unless you have a "wonderful" 100 watts, you no doubt interfere with him too. I think you two "birds" can still get together on this and split your operating time. On the other hand, there are a few hard-headed characters who *are* hams and whom *no one* can deal with except the FCC.

I suggest that you get to know the guy and ask him for his advice and assistance from time to time on other than ham projects. Before you know it you may be friends and may be able to work something out that will permit both of you to enjoy your hobby.

Anyone have any other suggestions for this reader (that are printable)?

Needed: A Tower

The St. Xavier High School at 600 North Bend Road, Cincinnati 24, Ohio needs a tower for its club station antennas. The tower should be about 30 to 35 feet in length and should be one that can be mounted on a building roof.

If you have such a tower that you are willing to donate to a very worthy cause, write the Club Station Moderator, Donald Brezine, S. J.

Here is an opportunity for someone to do a group of fine boys (as well as ham radio) a very big favor.

Let us remember international goodwill, but let us not forget that we must look around at home and help our own too.

I shall publish full credit for that tower in the column; in so doing everyone will know that we American hams *do* take care of our own too. That is the way it should be.

Thirty

Until we are resettled here in the States again, we must ask that you be patient with us relative to correspondence. Moving across the sea and getting resettled is not easy. But oh how wonderful it is to be back!

For now, 73 and 75 and a big 72 to all our French and foreign ham friends who made us realize that peace is everyone's business.

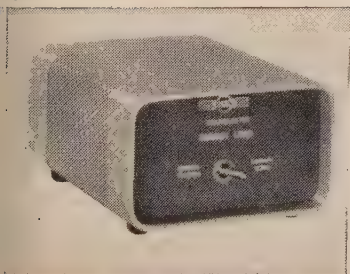
73, Chuck.

New Amateur Products

Dummy Load

COLLINS Radio Company has introduced the DL-1 Dummy Load which may be switched instantly in or out of an amateur radio station circuit for transmitter tuning and testing operations. The 100 watt resistive load may be used with transmitters of 100 watt output power and may also be used for brief tuning periods with higher powered amplifiers.

Collins DL-1 may be mounted on a table or desk top or may be mounted on any chassis or rack frame by means of two tapped holes in the bottom of the cabinet. The four rubber feet may be removed and the unit may be mounted on a flat plate with four screws. The DL-1 is 5 $\frac{1}{16}$ " wide, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " high and 7 $\frac{1}{16}$ " deep. More information may be obtained by circling E on page 126.





Novice

Did you ever wonder why one meter might read a power supply voltage of 270 volts, while another indicates the same point is 255 volts? To make it even more mystifying both meters may be perfectly accurate! This condition is usually brought about by voltage dividers in the equipment being measured. The circuit resistance, plus the resistance of the meter making the measurements, from a voltage divider. If the meter has a low resistance (low sensitivity, say 1,000 ohms per volt) it will read lower than a high resistance unit such as a vacuum tube voltmeter (v.t.v.m.). Let's see what happens when we make a voltage divider out of the bleeder resistance connected across the output of the power supplies we have been discussing over the past few months.

Voltage Dividers—A resistor almost always is used across the output terminals of a rectifier power supply. The name applied to such a resistor depends on its principal use. If it serves the purpose of bleeding off the charge on the filter capacitors when the rectifier is turned off, the resistor is called a **bleeder resistor**. If it serves the purpose of applying a fixed load to a filter circuit to improve the voltage regulation (an example might be the choke input supply, which requires the small fixed load), the resistor is called a **load resistor**. Naturally a bleeder and load resistor can be the same thing if it does both jobs at the same time.

If leads are connected to the resistor at various points to provide a variety of voltages, or if two or more resistors are connected in series, the resistor(s) is called a **voltage divider**.

In general, a resistor placed across the output terminals of a power supply may fulfill all of these functions. However, if the resistor is to be a bleeder resistor only, it usually has a very high resistance so that it will draw a negligible current from the rectifier. If the resistor is to serve as a load resistor, it should be of such value that it will draw approximately 10% of the full load capabilities. For example, if the power supply is rated at 100 ma maximum, 10 ma of this current should flow through the load resistor. The value can be computed from ohms

law when the voltage and current are known. The wattage can also be computed and it should be sufficient to dissipate the heat produced by the current flowing through it when the supply is on.

A resistor which is used as a load resistor also may be used as a voltage divider because the current flowing through the resistor produces a voltage drop across its equal to the supply voltage. Here's how it works. In fig. 1, three identical resistors are connected in series. So long as

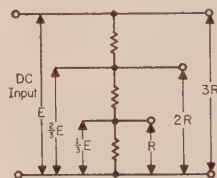
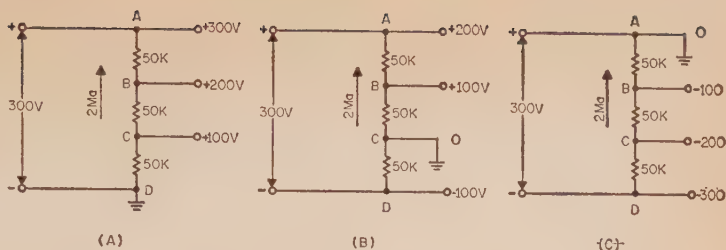


Fig. 1 — The relationship between voltage and resistance in a typical voltage divider circuit.

no load is drawn from any terminal except the top, or load terminal, the voltage across the resistors will divide proportionally to the resistance of each. For example, if each resistor was 10K, and the power supply was 300 volts, each resistor would have 100 volts impressed across it. Thus $\frac{1}{3}E$ would be 100 volts, $\frac{2}{3}E$ would be 200 volts, and of course E would be 300 volts.

At this point it might be a good idea to digress and mention the subject of common grounds. Did you ever wonder why there were so many connections soldered to the chassis of a receiver or transmitter? It is common practice to ground one side of most circuits. Thus ground potential is normally used as a reference for measurements of voltage. In this case ground is zero volts reference, as at point "D" in fig. 2a. If a rectifier and its filter are connected so that no parts are grounded, it is possible to ground the circuit at any point without affecting the operation of the supply. Thus in fig. 2b, if point "C" is grounded then point "D" becomes negative with respect to ground. Such a circuit is frequently used to furnish both plate (positive) and bias (negative) voltages from the same power supply. In the third drawing, point "A" is grounded and all voltage along the divider is negative with respect to ground. If point "B" had been grounded, the

Fig. 2 — Ground or common is an arbitrary word. It can be placed anywhere in a voltage divider circuit to supply a variety of output voltages and polarities.



power supply would have produced minus 100 and 200 volts in addition to plus 100 volts. It should be pointed out that in fig. 2c, point "A" will always be more positive than the other points even though they are negative with respect to ground (which is point "A"). The same is true for the other circuits also, no matter which point is grounded, point "A" will always be more positive than point "D" and "D" will always be more negative than "A".

Let's see why a voltage divider will cause two accurate meters to read the same voltage differently. It has been assumed in fig. 1 and fig. 2 that no load was attached to the divider except across the load terminals "A" and "D", and that voltages could be measured without drawing appreciable current. As soon as a load is attached to the divider at any intermediate terminal ("B" or "C"), the voltage division shown no longer is correct. This is because the resistance of the attached load forms a parallel circuit with the part of the divider across which it is placed. This changes the total resistance between the terminals concerned.

For example, let's say that two loads are placed across our divider, as in fig. 3. A load of 150K is placed across B-D and a load of

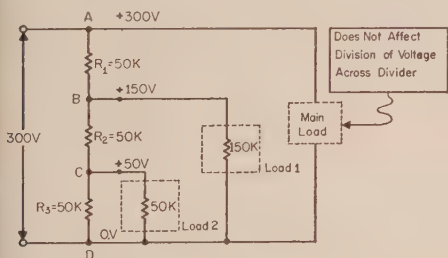


Fig. 3—The voltage relationships shown in fig. 1 cannot be maintained when a load is placed on the divider, as shown here and discussed in the text.

50,000 ohms (50K) across C-D. The resistance between D and C can be determined by Ohms Law and the formula for parallel resistors:

$$R_{\text{total}} = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

The resistance between points C and D would be:

$$R_{\text{CD}} = \frac{50\text{K} \times 50\text{K}}{50\text{K} + 50\text{K}} = 25\text{K}$$

To compute the resistance between points B and D we must add the above 25K to R_2 which is

a 50K resistor. Thus we have 75K in parallel with load 1 (150K) between points B and D. Again the parallel resistor formula comes in handy:

$$R_{\text{BD}} = \frac{75\text{K} \times 150\text{K}}{75\text{K} + 150\text{K}} = 50\text{K}$$

Thus the resistance between points B and D, with the loads attached is actually 50K.

Now let's figure the total resistance of the divider. The resistance between point A and D would be the above 50K plus the resistance of R_1 (which is 50K), or 100K.

If you would like to know the voltage which now appears at points B and C, we must know the current through the divider. This can be determined by Ohms Law:

$$I = \frac{E}{R}$$

$$I = \frac{300 \text{ volts}}{100,000} = .003 \text{ amperes or}$$

$$I = 3 \text{ milliamperes}$$

Since we know that 3 ma is flowing in R_1 (50K) we can determine the voltage developed across it:

$$E = IR$$

$$E = .003 \times 50,000$$

$$E = 150 \text{ volts}$$

You can see that when loads 1 and 2 have the values shown, resistor R_1 drops one-half of the available voltage instead of one-third as in the no-load case in fig. 2. Thus point B will be 150 volts positive with respect to point D, rather than the 200 as before.

Let's see what happens at point C. The 3 ma current flowing in R_1 divides at B and flows through load 1 and R_2 . Since we know that 150 volts is developed across R_1 , there can only be 150 volts (300 minus 150 v.) from point B to point D. The current through load 1 would then be:

$$I = \frac{E}{R}$$

$$I = \frac{150 \text{ volts}}{150,000}$$

$$I = .001 \text{ amperes, or}$$

$$I = 1 \text{ ma}$$

sent a load resistance. If it is v.o.m. type (volts-ohms-milli-amperes), it draws current from the circuit to actuate the meter pointer and therefore has resistance. If it has resistance, it is the same as placing an extra load in the circuit and consequently the voltage will drop, as in the above example. Because of this effect, we term the error *meter loading*. Class dismissed!

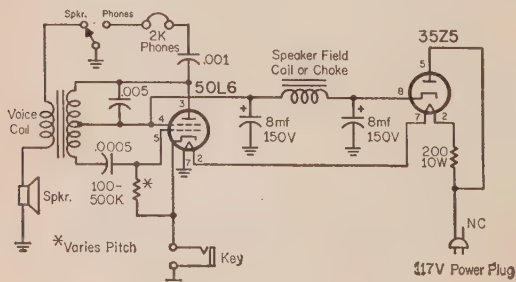
$$E = 100 \text{ volts}$$

The current in load 2 is then:

$I = 1 \text{ mA}$

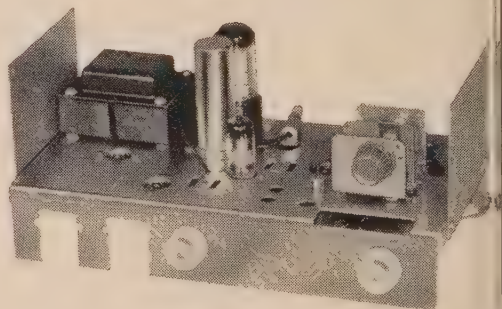
$$E = 50 \text{ volts}$$

The test meter mentioned earlier may repre-



Need a good code practice oscillator? Try the circuit shown in fig. 4, submitted by John Creamer, KNØBVR. It has both headphone and speaker output. Note that only one wire plugs into the 117 volt line. The common chassis ground circuit is connected to an outside ground, preferably a water pipe. This eliminates the shock hazard customary with a.c./d.c. or transformerless equipment. The transformer can be any old push-pull plate to 8 ohm speaker transformer. The tubes, common types, are found in most five tube radios. The miniature 35W4 and 50B5 equivalents may also be used.

Designed as a follow-up to their earlier EK-1, the new Heathkit EK2-A Educational Kit is an excellent starting point in learning basic radio theory. The student starts by learning the four basic parts of a crystal radio: antenna, ground, detector and earphone. With this ground-work



he actually builds a simple crystal receiver and then improves it by adding a tuned circuit, tubes, transformer and power supply. The final circuit of the EK-2A is a regenerative receiver. A soon to be released kit, the EK-2B will advance this knowledge of radio theory and provide additional components which result in a fine super-heterodyne receiver.

Fig. 4 — A two tube code practice oscillator designed by John Creamer, KNØBVR. If the tubes do not light, simply reverse the plug in the wall.

Home-Brew Contest

The Rock Creek Amateur Radio Association (W3RCN) is sponsoring a local home-brew construction contest for Novices. The rules are laid out to be fair to Novices with varying degrees of experience. If you live in the area, drop a line to E. van der Smissen, W3BNE, 13012 Turkey Branch Parkway, Rockville, Md. If your club would like to do the same thing, you can get some interesting information from the Rock Creek Association.

Who's DX?

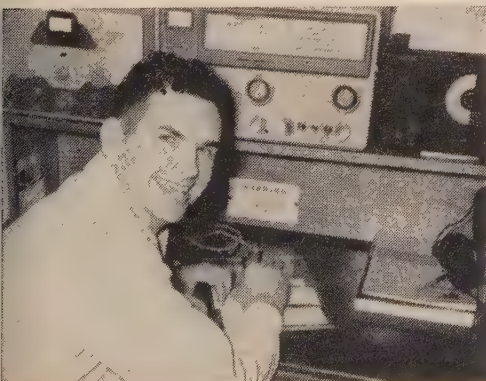
CQ to all Novices from the VE2 Radio Club de Quebec, P. O. Box 382, Quebec, Canada. A group of club members have banded together to provide contacts with Novices and Alex Desmeules, VE2AFC, President of the club, advises us that the following stations are participating: VE2AJP, P. O. Box 1232, Quebec City (80 c.w.), VE2AJK, 2718 Beauvoir, Ste-Foy, Quebec (80 c.w.), VE2BCD, 167 Blvd Pie 12, Ste-Foy, Quebec (40 c.w.), VE2PA, 550 Cote d'Abraham, Quebec, (15 c.w.), VE2AFC, P. O. Box 382, Quebec (10 & 15 phone for General class ops.), VE2BGL, 260 54th Street, East Charlesbourg (15 c.w.). If you would like skeds for any of these bands drop the station a line, giving a few extra skeds and state frequency and time in EST.

During Christmas vacation, Keith Lamonica, WA6CYT/G, 7500 Abron, APO 125, New

WNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKNWNKN

Noteworthy Novice

Our featured Novice this month is none other than Harold Mayes, KN5FVB, 210 Jean Drive, Marshall, Texas. Hal has been an avid CQ fan since 1952, and it has been part of the household. Finally on September 27, 1960 he took the big plunge and became KN5FVB. As Harold says, "Actually there are no words to express the pleasure I have derived from this very interesting hobby. Since beginning operations, I have logged 240 QSO's in 37 states with 32 confirmed. Through the magazine I would like to say to all my friends, both known and unknown, that I can be found at 7167, 7172, or 7187 kc., and I listen for weak signals. I operate after 0100 hours CST



York, heard the following stations in England between 1300 and 1530 GMT, on 15 meters, Jan. 1, 1961: KN1NEI, OGO, OXB, PTM, WV2NXS, KN3LWP, NMK, KN4NOX, WJB, YFG, WV6LSX(?) MCI, KN7LUT, LUH(?), KN8UHB, KN9BYC, BMC, DFH, DNE, WRQ. If anyone would like a QSL to confirm reception, the above stations should send their cards to Keith.

Also from England, Dan Dolan, K5SDY/G, 48th Transron Box 1989, APO 179, New York, reports reception of the following Novices. Dan neglected sending bands, dates, or times, but advises the stations he will confirm upon receipt of cards, 3 or 5 cents stamps, or IRCS: KN1JSU, MOV, NOE, NWF, OCX, OJI, LLK, OOO, OXB, PET, QDV, WV2JSS, KDY, LBL, MJE, MJF, MOW, MYE, NAX, NIO, NSD, NXS, OQQ, OUG, POY, KN3LSS, LYW, NDK, NYI, NUI, MKR, KN4AWO/2, DHD, MVT, NQZ, NJD/4, TQW, VWT, VWX, YFG, YIE, YOR, ZMD, KN5CEH, DNR, EQ? (wkg KN4NQZ), FSM, FWQ, FYU, KN8AJY, SKM, SRP, UTT, VEP, VFK, VTT, VYO, KN9BCH, WQL, WRD, WZL, VFJ, ZPE, ZVU, KNØERO, ZCX, XJZ, ZJM.

Ivor Stafford, VK3XB, 16 Byron St., Box Hill South, E. 11, Victoria, Australia, has almost finished his "crusade," needing only Utah for his Novice WAS. Ivors says "It has been a long road, but I am nearing the end of the WAS.

[Continued on page 110]



and would enjoy making a sked with anyone at anytime-for any reason, or no reason. I sure like a gud rag chew, but I don't mind if a Novice wants to contact me and run, to work on his WAS. Yes, I OSL 100%.

My rig, as you can see from the photos, consists of an NC-109, S-38B, BC-455B receivers and DX-20 transmitter with a dipole antenna. I also have a two element 15 meter beam in the making. I will get back to my hamming now, but in closing let me say, *have QSL, will QSO.*"

I can think of nothing to add to that, except a word of praise for Harold's neat station layout and well-done wallpaper collection.

SIDEBAND

Irv and Dorothy Strauber, K2HEA/K2M
12 Elm Street, Lynbrook, New York

SSB DX HONOR ROLL

| | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|-----|
| T12HP | 223 | 4X4DK | 161 |
| W6UOU | 218 | K2FW | 160 |
| W4IYC | 214 | W1OOS | 155 |
| VQ4ERR | 212 | W4OPM | 153 |
| W8PQQ | 206 | W5KFT | 151 |
| W6PXH | 200 | K8RTW | 151 |
| PY4TK | 200 | W5RHW | 150 |
| W6RKP | 196 | K0CTL | 150 |
| K2MGE | 194 | K2HEA | 150 |
| W7VEU | 191 | W6VUW | 136 |
| W0QVZ | 190 | W2YBO | 135 |
| W6BAF | 188 | W6YMV | 130 |
| W6WNE | 187 | W2MAF | 129 |
| HB9TL | 186 | K1IXG | 126 |
| VK3AHO | 185 | W8ACT | 125 |
| K9EAB | 181 | W2NUT | 125 |
| W5AFX | 177 | K6MLS | 125 |
| TG9AD | 176 | K2TDI | 125 |
| MP4BBW | 174 | W1JSS | 125 |
| W2LV | 174 | W1AOL | 125 |
| W5IYU | 174 | W6UPP | 122 |
| K4TJL | 173 | W2ATJ | 121 |
| W6CVU | 170 | W7DLR | 121 |
| W2FXN | 169 | W4UWC | 119 |
| W3MAC | 165 | ZL3AB | 117 |

PY4TK First South American for "200"

Art Cattoni, PY4TK, skipped ahead of all South American sideband competitors when he submitted the last of his confirmations for the "Worked 200" Award and was airmailed Certificate #9. Art, who has distinguished himself by his wonderful cooperation and courteous operating practices, is an able representative of all our neighbors to the South. A civil engineer, whose specialty is road construction, Art's business activities call him away from his shack for many periods during a month. Being such a good operator, Art is able to utilize his limited operating time to best advantage and work most of the new countries on sideband as they come along. Congratulations, Art, for a fine job well done.

Art, W5AFX, brought his listing up to date and received his stickers for "Worked 175," "Worked 150" and "Worked 125," all at one time! K2TDI, W1JSS, W1AOL, and K1IXG added "125" stickers to their certificates while "Worked 100" Certificates were mailed to K1EJO, W0BSK, G3KHE, and W0PGI. Other activity this month included the issuance of "Worked 75" Certificates to W1UOP and W0MLY with G8KS in a class by himself for the "Worked 50" Certificate. Congratulations to one and all and we look forward to seeing your totals rise from month to month.

S.S.B. Hamfest-Banquet

Make your reservations now for the 10th Annual Sideband Hamfest-Banquet, sponsored by the Single Sideband Amateur Radio Association, which will take place on Tuesday, March 21, 1961, from 10 A.M. to 12 Midnight at the Statler Hilton Hotel, New York City. The outstanding event of the year for sidebanders, this year's Hamfest will feature exhibits of the latest in sideband equipment and accessories, a fabulous get-together of sidebanders from all over the country, and a super Banquet at which you'll be entertained by the tops in Broadway talent. William B. Williams, famous New York disc jockey of Radio WNEW, will be Master of Ceremonies. Tables of ten may be reserved in advance when accompanied by full remittance for the reservations. Admission to the Hamfest is \$8 per person payable at the door. Admission to the Hamfest-Banquet is \$10 per person with advance reservations heartily recommended. Send your reservations and check to the Single Sideband Amateur Radio Association, Box 54, Rockville Centre, New York and look forward to enjoying the time of your sideband life.

Focus on Christina, EA8CT

We are happy to turn the spotlight this month on Christina, EA8CT, who has been very active on 10, 15, and 20 since December of last year. In writing about herself, Christina mentions that she is married to "Paco," a Spanish doctor from Madrid and they have resided in the Canary Islands for over 20 years. Mother of three most attractive children, Maria, Roberto, and Lill, Christina teaches languages (French, German and English) at the "Gymnasium." She operates



Christina, EA8CT whose activity from the Canary Islands has added so much enjoyment for the sideband fraternity.

out of the station of her uncle, Pablo, in whose name the call is listed. According to Spanish regulations, a close member of the family is permitted to operate the station provided he or she has also passed the examination, as was the case with Christina. According to her, the Spanish call signs are not personal but rather belong to the station as in the U.S.A.

A woman of great charm and enthusiasm, it is indeed a great pleasure to welcome Christina to the ranks of amateur radio operators and we hope that she enjoys her contacts as much as we enjoy ours with her.

DX on 75 Meters

Some of the DX focus has shifted from 20 meters to 75 meters as reports of increasing contacts with overseas stations started to filter down through the ranks. And all of the reports were true! In the forefront of this movement, to entice more DX operation to 75 and 80 meters were W1BU, W1FOS, W1FRR, and W8LIO, all well known for their v.h.f. activities (W1BU by any other call is still Sam Harris!). Entered in their logs were such familiar calls as PA0FM, YN1TAT, GW3EHN, DL7BA, G3AWZ, DL4PI, G2HX, 4X4DK, ZC4AK, and DL1VR, among others—all of these garnered on 80 meters. The Stateside stations ranged themselves on frequencies from 3.803 to 3.810 while the DX boys transmitted in the area from 3.760 to 3.795 (they are not permitted to operate above 3.800!). After W1BU or one of his cohorts had made the initial contacts, other W/Ks were invited to try their luck at an exchange of reports and—by golly—most of them made it!

As most seasoned DX chasers will realize, it's the challenge to be met in searching out DX on 80 which makes the hunt exciting; certainly not the necessity for adding a new country to the list. The 75-80 meter activity gives one the opportunity to study propagation under changing conditions and discover how, within the sunspot cycle, a band normally useful only for local contacts, can be put to work for long haul communication.

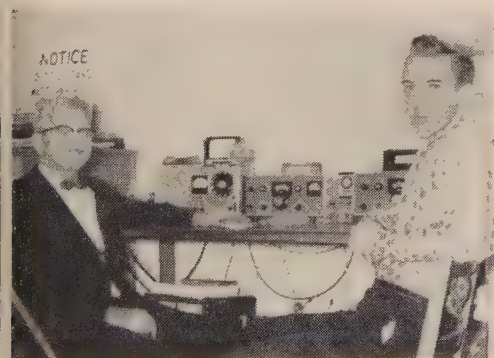
There was some grumbling on the part of 75-

meter roundtable members who resented the sudden and unexpected encroachment of DX hounds on the frequencies formerly used for their ragchewing over the past years. While we certainly agree that roundtables should not be summarily ignored or stomped on just for the sake of making a quick DX contact, we must point out that there are enough frequencies available on 75 for everyone's use. Neither the ragchewers nor DXers need start squabbling. With the signals put out by some of the leaders in this DX activity, it really couldn't matter less if they transmitted on 3.803 or 3.810 or in-between. We hope that any difference of opinion will have been speedily resolved so that each group will be able to pursue the particular facet of the hobby which it enjoys most without detracting from the pleasure of others.

Pile-ups Or QRT?

We'd like to share with you a letter received from Charlie, W1BAN, which points up the difficulties experienced by a new DX station on sideband: "Hugo, CP5EA, obtained his own 10-B and 814 linear there in Bolivia. He was helped very much in this by Hans, CP5EK. I obtained and converted for him a BC-458 and also sent a Central Electronics QT-1. He is running about 90 watts p.e.p. to the linear to a Hi-Gain tribander up 60 feet.

"Hugo has been on the 20 meter band only on occasions up to now. He has a terrible time in the pile-ups, what with the QRM and his difficulty with the English language. He much prefers to complete each QSO without tail-enders or breakers; these modes of operation only confuse him to the point where he closes down and tries it again later. Yes, I too believe the master of ceremony deal would work out the best if it could be handled with a firm control. I will make an effort to set schedules with him and see if something along this line can be arranged. I don't want him to become discouraged with 20 s.s.b. operation. This is the band where he is needed the most now."



Here's a fine father-son team—Frank, K4YWX, and Harry, K4YWW, who put out a beautiful sideband signal from Miami, Florida.



One of sideband's most glamorous couples—Henny, WA2DLK, and Raoul, K2AOS of New Hyde Park, New York.

Need we say more? The eager beavers and break-break boys ought to re-examine their tactics and see whether, just for once, they can't permit a new DX station to enjoy his entry into sideband rather than make his operation such a torture that he must shut down? How about it, fellers?

Product Detectors

The reception of single sideband signals is essentially the same as that of a.m. signals with one important difference; the absence of carrier in the received s.s.b. signal. In a conventional receiver, the audio intelligence is recovered from the r.f. signal by means of an envelope detector. This may be a diode rectifier either by itself or as part of a multi-purpose tube. It is possible to copy s.s.b. signals with this type of detector by providing a local carrier from the receiver b.f.o., or other source, to replace the carrier suppressed at the transmitter. One of the problems with this method is that the injection voltage of the inserted carrier is critical. For proper operation, the b.f.o. voltage must be large to help keep intermodulation distortion low. Better performance may be obtained by use of a product demodulator or detector. The injection voltage is no longer critical as with diode detectors and less distortion will be present.

In the product detector, the inserted carrier from the b.f.o. and the incoming signal from the i.f. stage are combined in the tube. The b.f.o. signal may be injected into the cathode or a grid of the tube. The s.s.b. signal modulates the local carrier and the output appears across the plate load resistor. The plate current will contain both sum and difference frequencies plus components having frequencies equal to the carrier plus sideband frequencies. These components are suppressed by a low pass filter in the plate circuit and the desired audio signal is passed on to the audio amplifiers.

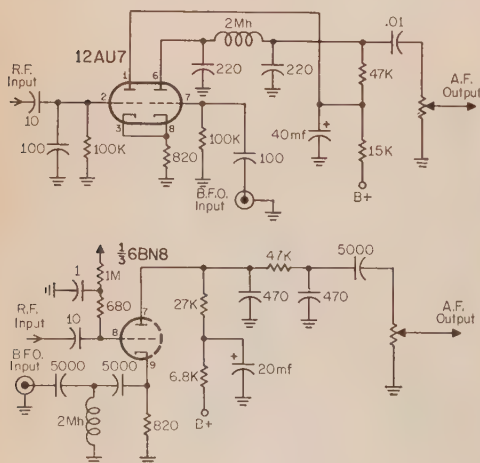


Fig. 1—Two typical product detectors. The top circuit is used in the Collins 75A-4 and the lower in the KWM-2.

If a receiver is to be used to copy either upper or lower sideband, some provision must be made to switch sidebands easily. There are two ways of accomplishing this. One is by using two sideband filters and a single carrier at the detector. The desired sideband is selected by switching filters. Another way is to use a single filter and shift the carrier from one side of the i.f. filter passband to the other by retuning the b.f.o. This retuning may be controlled by two different crystals or by capacitive re-tuning. The method of using two different crystals is being favored more these days since the local oscillator must be quite stable and extremely accurate as to frequency. The total error of the system must be less than 100 c.p.s.; more than that will degrade the quality of the signal.

Two examples of product detectors are shown.

HB9TL and ZL2GX Join List of Distinguished Verification Managers

We are delighted to announce the addition of Jack, HB9TL, and Jock, ZL2GX, to the list of distinguished amateurs who have offered to verify the cards of sidebanders wishing to apply for the "Worked 100" and "Worked 200" Awards.

HB9TL (Jakob Laib, Weinfelderstr. 29, Amrisweil, TG, Switzerland) is well known as one of Europe's outstanding DXers, one of sideband's most serious boosters, and will probably be the first European to earn the "Worked 200" Award. Jack will check confirmations for all sidebanders in Europe.

ZL2GX (Jock White, 86 Lytton Road, Gisborne, New Zealand) was the first operator in the world to achieve the 300 mark on the DXCC list and is also the Contest and Awards Manager for the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters. In addition, Jock has been of inestimable assistance to sidebanders everywhere in working many rare DX stations in the Pacific. Sidebanders in New Zealand, Australia and other Oceania "countries" may avail themselves of Jock's offer of assistance.



There's someone real nice missing from this photograph of Wally, W9PQI, and Bill, K9HJY, and that someone is Ruth, K9DOT, one of the early XYLS on s.s.b.

As with our other able Verification Managers, it is necessary to submit cards with a listing thereof *only* for the "Worked 100" and "Worked 200" Awards. For the other awards and stickers, a listing only, verified by another ham, and sent directly to us will be sufficient.

Both Jack and Jock now have a supply of awards rules and confirmation listing forms and will be happy to send them out upon receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

We are, of course, very grateful to Jack and Jock for volunteering their time and effort to be of service to the sideband fraternity.

Sideband Around the World

Thanks to Bill, VE3BQP, we have further news of Bert, ex-ZS3ES, who is now in Sierra Leone. According to Bill: "Bert is comfortably installed in the bush (miles from Freetown) and miles away from a.c. power. However, there is another ham at the mines (also miles away) but it is hoped that, between the two of them, they will eventually be able to generate the necessary power to be on the air before Spring!" Bert hopes to use the call ZD1ES but we probably won't know definitely until he is on the air. . . . Russ, DL4BS informed us about the DARC National Convention which is being held in Dortmund, Germany from May 19 to May 22. Russ listed the tentative program as consisting of a continuous industrial exhibition of commercial and amateur radio equipment; several mobile competitions; lectures on specialized subjects; meetings of specialist groups (v.h.f., DX, s.s.b., etc.) and a Grand Hamfest with musical and other entertainment in addition to a lottery with many attractive prizes. Russ invites all amateurs, who plan to be in the vicinity of Dortmund at that time, to contact him or DL2AL for accommodations which he guarantees are plentiful. . . . Mac, VP6WD, who, at present, is the only Barbados s.s.b. station, has designated Joe, W4OPM, Rt. 1, Box 152, Bayside, Va., as his QSL manager. . . . Thanks to Steve, G2BVN, we are pleased to pass along the QSL address of EP1AD (who will also accept cards for any



A well known Midwestern sidebander is Orrie, W8BF, shown with his charming XYL, Dorothy.

other EP station): MAAG, APO 205, New York, N.Y. . . . Still another certificate has been brought to our attention by Earle, KL7AWR. It is issued by the Kodiak Amateur Radio Club and is yours when you submit QSLs from five Kodiak Island licensed amateur radio stations to Kodiak Amateur Radio Club, Navy # 127, Box 37, c/o P.M., Seattle, Washington.

Ian, MP4BBW, is making another trip to the States this Spring and plans to attend the Dayton

Worked 100 and 200 Certificates

All stations must submit QSL cards, clearly marked 2-way S.S.B., together with an alphabetized list and sufficient return postage for these certificates and your cards. Listing forms will be sent by Sideband Editors and below listed stations upon receipt of your self-addressed envelope, stamped or with IRC's.

Worked 50 and 75 Certificates Stickers for 125, 150, 175 etc. Countries

All stations must submit only an alphabetized listing of confirmed 2-way S.S.B. contacts verified and attested to by another amateur. No cards need be submitted. Include letter postage.

African Stations

Send cards with lists to ZS6AMV, A. J. Louw, 52 Wargrave Ave., Auckland Park, Johannesburg, Tvl., South Africa from the following call areas: All ZS's, ZE, VQ2, ZD6, CR6 and CR7.

All sideband stations in the other African call areas send cards with lists to Awards Manager, R.S.E.A., QSL Bureau, Box 30077, Nairobi, Kenya.

United Kingdom and Ireland

R. F. Stevens, G2BVN, 51 Pettits Lane, Romford, Essex, England, will verify your cards provided they are accompanied by listings.

Europe

All European sidebanders may send their cards to Jakob Laib, HB9TL, Weinfelderstr. 29, Amrisweil, TG, Switzerland.

Australia, New Zealand and other Oceania

All sideband stations in these areas may send their cards to Jock White, ZL2GX, 86 Lytton Road, Gisborne, New Zealand.

Other Areas

Direct to the Sideband Editors, 12 Elm Street, Lynbrook, L.I., N.Y.

In every area, return postage must be included!

Hamvention on April 28-29 where we shall look forward to meeting him (also just heard that Les Earnshaw, ZL1AAX, will be at Dayton also!). On the way over, Ian had planned to visit and operate from Pakistan (AP2CR) on Feb. 21-22 and also put a new country on sideband on March 25 for one week—the British Phoenix Islands—where he and Bill, VE7ZM, look forward to operating as VR1W and VR1Z respectively. . . . A hearty welcome to Sam, EL2Q, whom many will remember as EL8F and who has recently joined us on sideband. . . . Other newcomers on sideband include ZC4AK, LZ1-WD, UC2AA, HA9OZ, 9G1CY, and CP5EA. It was rumored that UA3FE would take a small s.s.b. rig to Tannu Tuva during the s.s.b. contest weekend, using the call UA3FE/UAØ or UAØKYA. This is the hard-to-get Zone 23 and now that UAØOI is on s.s.b. from Zone 18, this makes WAZ-s.s.b. possible. Look out, Urb, much more work coming your way. . . . You're probably wondering how you can work these new rare stations. Well according to band conditions in January, the "U" stations were often workable either about 0100 GMT or 1200 GMT, sometimes with fairly strong signals. Since few signals outside of the States are now coming in with the strength heard in past years, it is up to you to dig down a little deeper and try to hear them under the stronger W/K stations. Requires a bit more listening but it pays off if you want to keep adding new countries to the list.

At this writing, VQ9TED still had not left the Seychelles to visit those rare islands, Algalega, Amirante, and Farquhar but the whole DX world was waiting breathlessly to get the news that Ted was on his way. There seems to be many a slip between plans and a trip, for the Laccadives and Malpelo DXpeditions were also postponed; the former till late February if Raju's ship bookings were confirmed and the latter till mid-March.

Joss, ZS6L; Van, ZS6BB, and Dennis, ZS6VX, got quite a kick out of working their first state-side aeronautical mobile, WA2JOI, Robbie, over Plattsburgh AFB in up-state New York. Signals both ways were tremendous and promises of QSLs were also flying high!

Band Hopping

It was sure good to hear the familiar voice and powerful signal of Larry, W4HNW, back on the air again after a week's stay in the hospital. We join his many, many friends in wishing him the best of health in the future. . . . At last, we had the pleasure of contacting Frank, K5YYY, of Blytheville, Ark., on the air during the first week of the New Year. So many sidebanders had mentioned him to us as being an outstanding personality that we were curious to hear for ourselves and sure enough they were right. . . . Bing, W2CMM; Mike, WA2BLH; and Stan, WA2GFV, have been spearheading the ticket reservations for the S.S.B. Dinner, along with co-chairman, Irv, W21VW, and prize

chairman, Mort, W2KR, all of whom have been devoting themselves to these same tasks for the past number of years. . . . That gal, Alice! Why, K4TGA of course—whose presence on any frequency, be it 14.315 or 3.995, is sure to add lots of fun and excitement and charm to the conversation. Remember when Alice used to wistfully check into the s.s.b. YL Net on a.m. and what a joy it was to finally welcome her to s.s.b. She and OM Ham, K4TGB, are wonderful examples of the very best you can meet in amateur radio. . . . Speaking of the best in amateur radio, 3.803 boasts of a number of top-notch s.s.b. operators, among them, Glen, W3AQT; Bernie, W9HTF; Bud, K2PMA; Steve, W2CWB; Morey, W2DXZ; Tom, W3MFD; Les, W3MTM, and a host of others. Here is a very lively but friendly group, always willing to welcome anyone who wishes to join them on frequency. . . . Don, WØUUV, is busy building a new all-transistorized exciter; this, of course only when he's not busy chasing DX. . . . Al, K7AM, was on vacation in Depoe Bay from his home QTH in Portland, Ore. when we contacted him on 20. There he was with his KWM-2 set out on a card table but connected to his car's Heli-whip and what a fine signal he had! Then, practically the minute he returned home the next night, Al pulled the rig from the car, hooked it up to the fixed antenna and was back on the air with not a minute lost. . . . Murray, K6CQU, MM, aboard the Horace Luckenbach, has been having himself a time, working coast to coast from Southern California waters. Another popular maritime mobile signal comes from Guy, W1ONZ, who is always monitoring the band for stations in the Boston area. . . . Congratulations to Bob, K4AJ, and XYL whose son, Mark, was married on Jan. 28 with Bob, of course, acting as Best Man. . . . Jeff, K4LLB, now operating portable in Orlando, Fla., was anxiously awaiting a reunion with his XYL and four youngsters from Nashville, Tenn. . . . Cal, W4ANE, will act as QSL manager for the Laccadive DXpedition when and if it finally comes off. . . . Frank, W2AMJ, and Ed, W2KPQ, oiled up the hinges, applied a heavy dose of rust remover and zoomed down the band from 3.999 to 3.803 one recent evening, much to the surprise and delight of the gang at the low end of 75. . . . If you'd like weekly propagation forecasts, a postcard to Central Radio Propagation Radio Warning Service, National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado, will bring them to you. . . . Phil, K2HU, is another of the old timers who was away from radio for 20 years till the fellows in his office at the Bell Tel. Co. aroused his curiosity with their talk of the wonders of s.s.b. Now Phil is back on the air and just as excited as a kid with a new toy. . . . All Jim, W4FBZ, wanted for Christmas was his two front teeth; hope the man in the red suit was good to him. . . . Dick, K2RTI, was heard locally with a fine signal from his homebrew

[Continued on page 124]

Space Communications

GEORGE JACOBS, W3ASK

11307 CLARA STREET
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

Space Recap

This month's column will be devoted to a recapitulation of the entire space picture as it looked as of January 4, 1961. Complete information will be given concerning all objects successfully placed in orbit; those which have been turned-up; those retrieved, and those which are still in orbit.

Since October 4, 1957, that historic day when the first artificial earth satellite was successfully launched, 70 objects have been blasted through the earth's atmosphere into outer space. Of these, 44 have been satellites designed for one particular scientific purpose or another, while the remaining 26 have been either the rockets which carried the satellite into orbit, or debris from the rocket carrier or satellite. In the language of today's space-age, this debris is generally referred to as "space garbage."

Of the 44 artificial satellites rocketed into space, 21 are still in orbit either around the earth or around the sun, and one rests on the surface of the moon.

Three satellites have been launched for communication experiments, while the transmitters of 7 satellites presently in orbit are still on the air.

Space Catalog

A complete listing of successful satellite launchings, and what has happened to the satellites since launching, is given in the tables beginning on the next page. This catalog of space objects is compiled from data collected by the National Surveillance Control Center, and released by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The National Surveillance Control Center is responsible for keeping a constant radar watch on outer space, so that this country knows the whereabouts of every object in orbit.

Each successful space launching is designated officially in alphabetical order, in accordance with the Greek alphabet. Each year the designations begin over again with ALPHA, the first letter in the Greek alphabet. For example, the first successful launching in 1961, regardless of which country achieves it, will be designated 1961 ALPHA. If more than a single object orbits as a result of the launching, the designations are broken down further in numerical sequence.

For example; if, as a result of the first successful launching in 1961, a satellite, its rocket carrier, and a miscellaneous piece of metal all go into orbit, they would be designated 1961 ALPHA 1, 1961 ALPHA 2 and 1961 ALPHA 3 in that order.

Besides its official designation, which is recognized internationally, each satellite usually has a common name, or project name, given to it by the launching country. Sputniks and Luniks have been the common names so far chosen by the USSR for their satellites, while the U.S. satellites bear their project names, such as Discoverer, Explorer, Echo, Transit, etc.

Also shown in the Space Catalog are the periods for those satellites still in orbit and the inclination, apogee and perigee of the orbit. The *period* of the satellite is the time it takes to complete its orbit around the earth. Periods vary between approximately 92 and 138 minutes. The *apogee* is the point on the satellite's orbit farthest from the earth, while *perigee* is the orbit's closest point to earth. *Inclination* is the angle the satellite's orbit makes with the equator.

The Score

Of the 44 satellites placed successfully into orbit through January 4, 1961, 35 are credited to the United States and 9 to the Soviet Union. The U.S. has orbited 35 satellites with the 34 successful launchings, having on one occasion placed two satellites into orbit with a single launching (1960 ETA 1 and 2). Nineteen of the American satellites are still in orbit, as are 2 of the Russian's.

The U.S. has brought back to earth successfully four of its satellites, while the Russians have retrieved one of theirs.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have placed a satellite into orbit around the sun, but Russia so far has been the only country to land a satellite on the surface of the moon.

Space Communications

The United States leads in the field of space communications. Project Score (1958 ZETA) was the first satellite to relay a voice message by radio back to earth (President Eisenhower's 1958 Christmas Greetings to the world).

On August 12, 1960 the U.S. launched the first passive communications satellite, the 100-

Objects In Orbit
(As of January 4, 1961)

| Object | Name | Launched By | Launch Date | Period (Mins.) | Inclination (degrees) | Apogee Perigee (statute miles) | Transmitting freq. (Mc) |
|----------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1958 ALPHA | Explorer I | US | 1 Feb 58 | 106.9 | 32.22 | 1138 217 | |
| 1958 BETA 1 | Rocket Body | US | 17 Mar 58 | 138.3 | 34.27 | 2687 406 | |
| 1958 BETA 2 | Vanguard I | US | 17 Mar 58 | 133.9 | 34.25 | 2454 406 | 108.022 |
| 1959 ALPHA 1 | Vanguard II | US | 17 Feb 59 | 125.3 | 32.86 | 2042 348 | |
| 1959 ALPHA 2 | Rocket Body | US | 17 Feb 59 | 129.6 | 32.90 | 2284 344 | |
| 1959 DELTA | Explorer VI | US | 7 Aug 59 | Position Uncertain | | | |
| 1959 EPSILON 2 | Capsule | US | 13 Aug 59 | 93.0 | 78.94 | 395 123 | |
| 1959 ETA | Vanguard III | US | 18 Sep 59 | 129.8 | 33.34 | 2320 316 | |
| 1959 IOTA 1 | Explorer VII | US | 13 Oct 59 | 101.1 | 50.31 | 670 344 | 19.9904 |
| 1959 IOTA 2 | Rocket Body | US | 13 Oct 59 | 101.0 | 50.31 | 661 343 | |
| 1960 ALPHA* | Pioneer V | US | 11 Mar 60 | 311.6D | 3.351 | .9931AU .8061AU | |
| 1960 BETA 1 | Rocket Body | US | 1 Apr 60 | 99.1 | 48.41 | 464 429 | |
| 1960 BETA 2 | Tiros I | US | 1 Apr 60 | 99.1 | 48.39 | 467 429 | 107.997 |
| 1960 GAMMA 1 | Rocket Body | US | 13 Apr 60 | 92.9 | 51.25 | 343 179 | |
| 1960 GAMMA 2 | Transit IB | US | 13 Apr 60 | 95.2 | 51.28 | 429 231 | |
| 1960 EPSILON 1 | Sputnik IV | USSR | 15 May 60 | 93.2 | 65.02 | 359 175 | |
| 1960 EPSILON 3 | None † | USSR | 15 May 60 | 93.7 | 64.89 | 391 172 | |
| 1960 EPSILON 4 | None † | USSR | 15 May 60 | 93.3 | 64.89 | 363 176 | |
| 1960 ZETA 1 | Midas II | US | 24 May 60 | 94.3 | 33.00 | 332 282 | |
| 1960 ETA 1 | Transit 2A | US | 22 Jun 60 | 101.6 | 66.77 | 650 389 | 54;162;216;324 |
| 1960 ETA 2 | Greb ‡ | US | 22 Jun 60 | 101.6 | 66.77 | 657 381 | |
| 1960 ETA 3 | Rocket Body | US | 22 Jun 60 | 101.3 | 66.77 | 638 383 | |
| 1960 IOTA 1 | Echo I | US | 12 Aug 60 | 117.1 | 47.20 | 1313 620 | 107.94 |
| 1960 IOTA 2 | Rocket Body | US | 12 Aug 60 | 118.0 | 47.28 | 1031 950 | |
| 1960 IOTA 3 | Metal Object | US | 12 Aug 60 | 118.2 | 47.20 | 1050 941 | |
| 1960 IOTA 4 | Metal Object | US | 12 Aug 60 | 118.2 | 47.20 | 1044 950 | |
| 1960 IOTA 5 | Metal Object | US | 12 Aug 60 | 118.3 | 47.20 | 1060 940 | |
| 1960 NU 1 | Courier 1B | US | 4 Oct 60 | 106.9 | 28.30 | 769 586 | 107.97 |
| 1960 NU 2 | Rocket Body | US | 4 Oct 60 | 106.4 | 28.30 | 735 591 | |
| 1960 XI 1 | Explorer VIII | US | 3 Nov 60 | 112.6 | 50.00 | 1419 259 | |
| 1960 XI 2 | Rocket Body | US | 3 Nov 60 | 112.5 | 50.00 | 1415 259 | |
| 1960 PI 1 | Tiros II | US | 23 Nov 60 | 98.2 | 48.57 | 463 378 | 108.0 |
| 1960 PI 2 | Rocket Body | US | 23 Nov 60 | 98.1 | 48.57 | 458 378 | |
| 1960 SIGMA § | Discoverer XVIII | US | 7 Dec 60 | 92.8 | 81.50 | 366 143 | |
| 1960 TAU | Discoverer XIX | US | 20 Dec 60 | 91.9 | 83.40 | 323 128 | |

*Period in days, aphelion and perihelion in astronomical units, inclination to ecliptic.

†Unidentified metal objects, may be debris from either rocket carrier or satellite.

‡Piggy-back shot with Transit 2 A.

§Capsule, ejected from satellite, successfully recovered from orbit.

Lunar And Space Probes

| Name | Launched By | Launch Date | Status |
|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Pioneer IV | US | 3 Mar 59 | Orbiting Sun |
| Lunik I | USSR | 2 Jan 59 | Orbiting Sun (First Space Probe) |
| Lunik II | USSR | 12 Sep 59 | Hit Moon—13 September 1959 |

Space probes launched after October 1, 1959 are shown in the Objects In Orbit Table.

The above listing is a summary of the satellite and probe launchings since October 4, 1957.

Data for Echo I will be given net month.

foot balloon, Echo. Echo has made possible experimental u.h.f. communications over great distances, and is still in orbit.

Courier, the first active radio relay satellite was launched by the U.S. on October 4, 1960. This satellite stored tremendous amounts of communication data received while over one transmitting station, and upon command, released the data while over another communication station great distances away. The Courier satellite is still in orbit, but its communication

equipment is now inoperative due to power supply exhaustion.

Echo and Courier, although experimental communication satellites, are vanguards of the globe-girdling space communications systems which may be in operation in the not-too-distant future.

Satellite Frequencies

Each satellite placed into orbit carries a transmitter for tracking purposes and for telemetering

Burned-Up Objects
(As of January 4, 1961)

| Object | Name | Launched By | Launch Date | Burn-Up Date |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1957 ALPHA 1 | Rocket Body | USSR | 4 Oct 57 | 1 Dec 57 |
| 1957 ALPHA 2 | Sputnik I | USSR | 4 Oct 57 | Early Jan 58 |
| 1957 BETA | Sputnik II | USSR | 3 Nov 57 | 14 Apr 58 |
| 1958 GAMMA | Explorer III | US | 26 Mar 58 | 28 Jun 58 |
| 1958 DELTA 1 | Rocket Body | USSR | 15 May 58 | 3 Dec 58 |
| 1958 DELTA 2 | Sputnik III | USSR | 15 May 58 | 6 Apr 60 |
| 1958 EPSILON | Explorer IV | US | 26 Jul 58 | 23 Oct 59 |
| 1958 ZETA | Atlas-Score | US | 18 Dec 58 | 21 Jan 59 |
| 1959 BETA | Discoverer I | US | 28 Feb 59 | Early Mar 59 |
| 1959 GAMMA | Discoverer II | US | 13 Apr 59 | 26 Apr 59 |
| 1959 EPSILON 1 | Discoverer V | US | 13 Aug 59 | 28 Sep 59 |
| 1959 ZETA | Discoverer VI | US | 19 Aug 59 | 20 Oct 59 |
| 1959 THETA | Lunik III | USSR | 4 Oct 59 | Apr 60 ? |
| 1959 KAPPA | Discoverer VII | US | 7 Nov 59 | 26 Nov 59 |
| 1959 LAMBDA | Discoverer VIII | US | 20 Nov 59 | 8 Mar 60 |
| 1960 GAMMA 3 | Metal Object | US | 13 Apr 60 | Jul 60 |
| 1960 DELTA | Discoverer XI | US | 15 Apr 60 | 26 Apr 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 2 | Rocket Body | USSR | 15 May 60 | 17 Jul 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 5 | None* | USSR | 15 May 60 | Sep-Oct 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 6 | None* | USSR | 15 May 60 | Sep-Oct 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 7 | None* | USSR | 15 May 60 | 24 Sep 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 8 | None* | USSR | 15 May 60 | Sep-Oct 60 |
| 1960 EPSILON 9 | None* | USSR | 15 May 60 | Sep-Oct 60 |
| 1960 ZETA 2 | Metal Object | US | 24 May 60 | 5 Dec 60 |
| 1960 THETA | Discoverer XIII | US | 10 Aug 60 | 14 Nov 60† |
| 1960 KAPPA | Discoverer XIV | US | 18 Aug 60 | 16 Sep 60† |
| 1960 LAMBDA 1 | Sputnik V | USSR | 19 Aug 60 | 20 Aug 60† |
| 1960 LAMBDA 2 | Rocket Body | USSR | 19 Aug 60 | 23 Sep 60 |
| 1960 MU | Discoverer XV | US | 13 Sep 60 | 18 Oct 60 |
| 1960 OMICRON | Discoverer XVII | US | 12 Nov 60 | 29 Dec 60† |
| 1960 RHO 1 | Sputnik VI | USSR | 1 Dec 60 | 2 Dec 60 |
| 1960 RHO 2 | Rocket Body | USSR | 1 Dec 60 | 2 Dec 60 |

*Unidentified metal objects, may be debris from either rocket carrier or satellite.

†Capsule, ejected from satellite, successfully recovered from orbit.

Listing of all burned up space objects complete as of January 4, 1961.

scientific information back to earth. Signals from some of the satellites (especially the Russian Sputniks) have been received on rather simple receiving installations, while reception of others may require a more elaborate setup.

The transmitters on the following seven satellites presently in orbit are still active, but a rather elaborate receiving setup may be required to copy them:

TRANSMITTING SATELLITES

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Vanguard I | 108.022 Mc |
| Explorer VII | 19.9904 Mc |
| Tiros I | 107.997 Mc* |
| Transit 2A | 54; 162; 216; 324 Mc |
| Echo I | 107.94 Mc |
| Courier 1B | 107.97 Mc |
| Tiros II | 108.0 Mc |

*The transmitter on Tiros I was designed to be shut off from the ground. Efforts to silence the transmitter, however, have so far been unsuccessful. Future attempts will be made in order that the frequency can be assigned to another space project.

The Space *Catalog* appearing in this month's column reflects the complete space picture as of January 4, 1961. Amendments and revisions to this *Catalog* will appear periodically in this column.

Project Haverford

Space communication techniques are now in their infancy. At the present time the equipment needed for moon or Echo- bounce communications is elaborate, complicated and very costly. No doubt, in time, as simplifications are found in techniques and equipment, space communications will be within the reach of many radio amateurs. At the present time, however, it looks as if the reasonable way for radio amateurs to get into space communications is by a group effort through a large and active radio club, or similar organization.

Recently some students at Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania, set up a Satellite Tracking Station under the direction of Professor T. A. Benham of the Department of Physics. The station is to be used for tracking satellites, and for attempting communication by reflection from the moon and Echo type passive satellites.

Despite an initial setback, when fire destroyed much of the equipment the night before the Echo



Interior view of the Haverford College Satellite Tracking Station. Professor T. A. Benham (center), faculty project leader, is shown at the controls of one of the receivers.

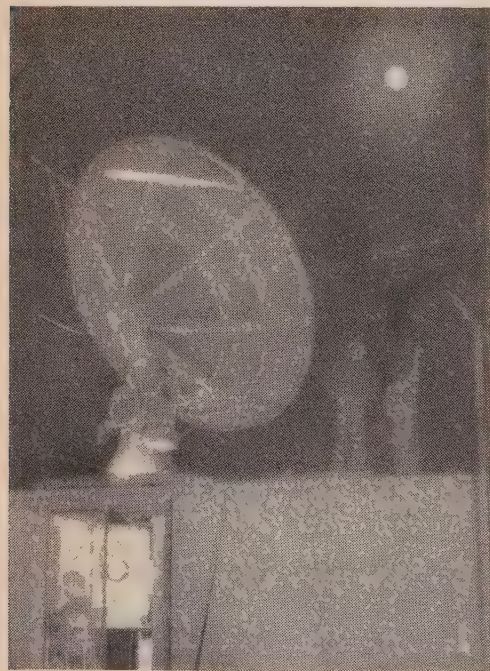
tracked the unsuccessful NASA moon satellite attempt from the time the satellite appeared above the horizon at Cape Canaveral to when it disappeared over Africa (see Photos). As soon satellite was launched, the tracking station is now almost complete.

The students at Haverford College have already participated in some interesting projects with their tracking station. This past fall they

as Professor Benham can obtain a klystron he needs, they plan to conduct moon and Echo-bounce experiments.

Since the formation of the Haverford College Satellite Tracking Station might set a pattern for the formation of similar projects at amateur radio clubs associated with other educational institutions, *CQ* has invited Professor Benham to tell the complete Project Haverford story in an upcoming issue.

73, George, W3ASK



Haverford College Satellite Tracking Station. Dish antenna oriented to receive signals from NASA's unsuccessful moon satellite shot this past fall. Dish will also be used for moonbounce and communications by reflection from the Echo satellite.

Ham Hints



Extra Leverage For Tough Screws

When you need some extra leverage for loosening or tightening a screw, use the screwdriver and adjustable wrench technique shown. Tighten the wrench down onto the flat portion of the screwdriver tip and rotate driver and wrench together.

VHF

BOB BROWN, K2ZSQ
67 RUSSELL AVENUE
RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY

50mc. 144mc. 220mc. 420mc. and above

CQ WW V.H.F. Contest

I only hope you fellows had as much fun as we did in our February CQ World Wide V.H.F. Contest! We thought there were a lot of stations on from this area, but when we saw the logs coming in it really made us wonder! Six meters, as usual, seemed to be jam-packed with contesters, but what really surprised us was the 2 meters and up activity. In the past contest activity on the u.h.f. bands was at a bare minimum, but we're glad to see some of the u.h.f.'ers giving it a real run for its money.

This last contest gives us a chance to hear from you for possible changes of rules, improvements, etc. As we well know, it's impossible to please everyone. This last contest was more or less a trial or experiment. The big ARRL contest (such as last January's) puts the multiple-banders and club groups into real competition with each other. This results in huge amounts of v.h.f.-u.h.f. men competing for the big title. This also gives individual v.h.f. clubs and societies added incentive and an annual "project" of trying to beat other club's scores. From these viewpoints I think we'll all agree that the ARRL V.H.F. Department is rendering a great service.

For the CQ gang to run the same kind of contest would just be duplication of the ARRL objective. So we turn to the other side of the story: The individual operator. We are all aware of the fact that a great many of us are not members of v.h.f. clubs and that a lot of these clubs do not participate in contests anyway. There is also the added factor that all of us cannot operate all v.h.f. bands. So it was decided to sponsor a contest that would rate individual 50, 144, 220, 432, and 1296 mc men against each other individually. This means a separate contest for each band. Our prime objective is to prove the operating skill of low power, single band v.h.f. men. The reception by the fraternity of this idea was overwhelming! They liked the idea of being able to win a contest by themselves, developing ease and skill of operation. Over the years CQ's v.h.f. contest rules have changed, and rightly so, as more and more fellows joined in asking, "What about mobile operations," etc. We also instituted a separate group of regulations for those stations wishing to operate multiband—whereby they would be classified in a division by themselves in the final printed results. These changes in the rules were brought about by you through your letters and comments. This brings us to the ques-

tion at hand: What changes would you like to see in the next CQ World Wide V.H.F. Contest? For a detailed report of our present rules, check the regulations on page 77 in the January '61 issue. We have another contest coming up on August 26 and 27, 1961. We would like to hear from you before May with your suggestions so that we can make up the new rules for an announcement page. Your ideas and comments will affect the next contest! Let us hear from you today! One final reminder: Contests logs must be in to us no later than March 15th for printing of results in the July issue. Don't delay! Get them in now!

Flash

Bill Brady of Selsey, England reports "G2HCG, who developed the slot antenna, is preparing some 2 meter experiments with the serious expectations of bridging the North Atlantic from northern England to North America. More details later." *Via George Jacobs, W3ASK.*

Correction—KL7FLC

You may remember a letter which was printed in our January column by M.Sgt. Freiberg of the Alaskan Air Command mentioning that to his knowledge the call letters KL7FLC had not been legally issued. This was a grave error. We don't know how the mix-up occurred, but we received a correction with proof from Bob Mellen of his authorization to operate under the call letters of KL7FLC. Our sincere apologies.

CQ's Century Club Awards

A large majority of the mail we've been receiving lately concerns our CQ Century Club Awards. Every day another bundle of applications and QSL cards come in. Between these certificates and our recent contest logs, we've had little time to answer letters of inquiry. Last year we printed the rules covering these awards, but due to a typographical error the ROHO certificate rules were inserted in the middle of our CCC regulations. At this time we'd like to restate our Century Club Award rules for new applicants:

A. The CQ Century Club Award is offered to those who have met with the following qualifications in one year's time. (This award is open to v.h.f. men anywhere in the world.

1. 50 mc entrants must show a list of 150 contacts within one year with the proper QSL's on

hand to present as verification if requested. This list must consist of just those whose cards you have received. Each entry must have the call of that station and the date worked. Number them one to one hundred fifty (preferably in chronological order). Make sure that the two dates furthest apart do not exceed one year between. Each list must be headed by these two dates showing the span of time covered in the entries.

2. 144 mc entrants must show a list of at least 100 *confirmed contacts* with the information above.

3. 220 mc entrants must show a list of at least 50 *confirmed contacts* with the information given under the 50 mc award.

4. 432 mc entrants must show a list of at least 25 *confirmed contacts* with the information given under the 50 mc award.

B. Each list must be accompanied by a statement reading, "We, the undersigned, hereby verify that John Doe, K5XXX, displays the cards listed from actual on-the-air contacts." This statement must be signed by at least two witnesses (preferably licensed amateurs).

1. The cards themselves may be sent instead of a list but adequate postage must also be included for their return. (This seems to average out to about 96¢ first class mail. When you mail your cards, note how much it takes and include the same amount of stamps or cash with your application.)

2. There is no limit to how many certificates you may earn. How many can you get in a year's time?

3. There is no charge for this award. This CQ award is free to all who qualify.

4. Lists and statements should be mailed to: CQ Century Club Awards, c/o Bob Brown, K2ZSQ, 67 Russell Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey.

The certificates themselves are real beauts, well worth working for. They will be dated according to the dates you present on your list so that you can take off on a new award from the date appearing on the last. Good luck with the certificates boys



Here's an excellent idea of what the turn-out was like at the Syracuse V.H.F. Roundup. (Photo by K2AVA)



This is the antenna at WA2JQC.

Attention V.H.F. Clubs!

We are preparing a list to be published soon in this column concerning the v.h.f. clubs and societies for the benefit of the readers. Have your club secretary write us concerning membership requirements, where the club meets, when, and who to contact regarding application. This will aid prospective members in finding a local group he can join and find the satisfaction of participating in club affairs. Let's hear from you now!

Man of the Month

Our feature v.h.f. man this month is Conrad Holdorf, PY5GK, of Parama, Brasil, South America. Michael, LU3DCA, advised us of Conrad's activities. PY5GK started his amateur work on v.h.f. in 1952. In 1954 he had his first QSO on 144 mc over 70 miles with a portable rig running only $\frac{1}{3}$ of a watt into a $\frac{1}{4}$ wave antenna! Since then he has worked the following countries on 50 mc: KH6, XE, W4, TI, HC, OA, CE, LU, CX, ZP, YV, FM7, PJ, KP4, CO, CT3, FF8, and PY's 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7! Quite an impressive list!

Until 1959 he used the following equipment: A 25 watt transmitter with a 6146 in the final, a 6AQ5 as a doubler-driver and a 6AU6 as a crystal oscillator. The receiver was a HQ-140 XA with a 4 tube crystal controlled converter.

Now the transmitter has been changed to a new one running 150 watts to a 4-65A driven by a 2E26 and two 6CL6 tubes in the oscillator and multiplier stages. The receiver is a homebrew double conversion job with 18 tubes.

On 144 mc the transmitter runs 15 watts and the receiver is also of the double conversion type, with 21 tubes. All the transmitters, receivers, converters, antennas, and even the 35 foot tower are homemade—an impressive job really well done!

Free Hi-Pass Filters

Being v.h.f.'ers, with a large percentage of us operating 6 meters, we are frequently troubled by Television Interference (TVI). Many shun 6 meter operation for that very reason! Reports of 6 meter TVI have been blown way out of proportion in recent years by hams who have been worried over phone calls from neighbors annoyed by TVI. Most of us are aware of the fact that this is a problem quite easily solved by in-



"Gee! Look what Joe's got in the trunk!" More—hamming it up at Syracuse. (Photo by K2AVA)

stalling a good high pass filter on the television receiver. An excellent filter for that purpose is the Drake TV-300-HP. This filter has a cut-off frequency of 52 mc and sells for anywhere from \$3.50 to \$5.00. Over recent years television companies have realized that the amateur operator is not necessarily causing the interference but rather the television's inability to reject nearby amateur signals. For this reason the television companies themselves have taken on the task of giving these filters to TVI recipients through their distributors. A certain form is required, indicating the make, model number, and serial number, as well as call letters of the intercepted amateur station. I have made up copies of these forms plus lists of distributors supplying the filters (in most cases R. L. Drake TV-300-HP). These have been duplicated and handed out to hams in need. If you'd like some of these forms and lists, send 25¢ (to cover printing costs, paper, envelopes, and postage) to: TVI, 67 Russell Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey.

Geminids Meteor Shower

Of tremendous interest to the 2 meter fraternity was our recent Geminids meteor shower occurring on December 10 through 14, 1960. These showers are the result of meteor trails which tend to ionize layers of our upper atmosphere giving us a reflecting element off which to bounce our v.h.f.-u.h.f. signals. The other big shower which occurs annually and right on schedule is the Perseids meteor shower, during the summer.

Jack, W8PT, reports, "December 12th brought a long sought contact with Georgia—W4LNG. Ruddy's signals were really pounding in here . . . The best Geminids I've ever heard!"

Walt, W4LTU, sends us the following, "We came very close to making it with W0YSJ, a real near miss over a 1120 mile path. Some signals were heard from W0RSP in South Dakota but nil from W0MOX in Colorado, a tantalizing 1450 mile path. W0MOX indicated by postcard, however, that he heard on December 11 an extremely weak but continuous sequence of signals! This could be something other than meteor and certainly bears looking into."

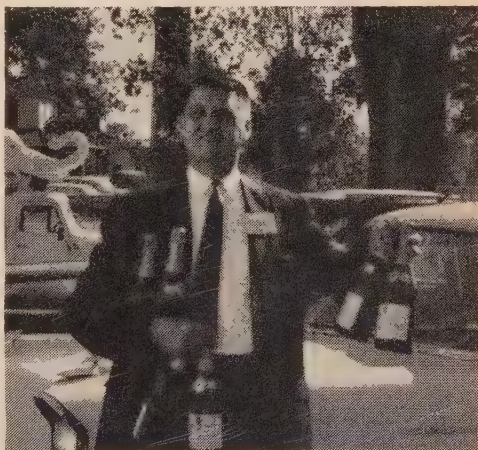
Ernie, W5FYZ, reports, "On the 11th W0IC

received my call and many short bursts. His signal level was high. Good QSO with Claude on the 12th; signals peaking S-8 with several long bursts. His signals were copied by other stations in this area during our skeds.

"Worked K5TQP, Albuquerque, New Mexico, for my first N.M. contact and state number 26. I was rather pessimistic about our chances, but his signals were very good and were copied by other stations in this area, including one in Texas! On the 10th I heard a few pings and letters; same on the 11th. On the 12th, identification was made early on a 10 second burst, and the QSO wrapped up just as sked time ended.

"Also worked Tom, W0IUF, of Boulder, Colorado, on the 12th. Pings and short bursts with parts of calls on the 9th and 10th; nil on the 11th. Good solid QSO on the 12th, with several 10-15 second bursts, and completed in 13 minutes of the second sked.

"In conclusion, the shower seemed to peak on the night of the 12th, with all three QSO's being made during the period from 10 P.M. to 12 M. CST. All three QSO's were in a WNW to NW direction and all were about 800 miles from Minden, Louisiana. Conditions to the NE were very poor and in no way comparable to the Perseids."

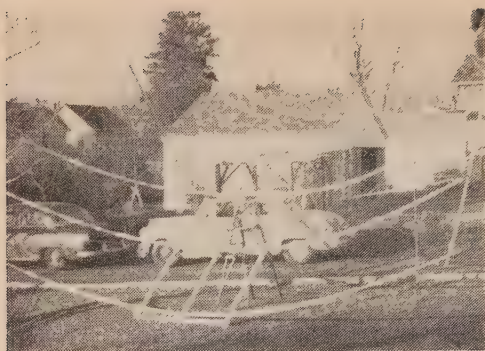


Charlie Sellwood, W2RHQ, with donations (?) for prizewinners inside at Syracuse. (Photo by K2AVA)

In addition to the above, W0BFB in Iowa worked W4AIB in South Carolina, while K2LMG in Ithaca, New York, put it across with W0YSJ in North Dakota, a 1000 mile path. W0YSJ also worked VE3DIR in Toronto, Canada. VE3DIR made it with W4FWH in Georgia for what Tony described as his easiest meteor contact ever; it took only 15 minutes. W4LTU tried, but in vain. Other skeds that we are aware of at this moment were between WA6MLX, W3BYF, W1AZK, K1LSY, K1CRN, K4EUS, W1JDF—W5FYZ.

Echo Bounce Analysis—K1LKK

Received a very interesting letter from **Peter Olendzenski, K1LKK**, concerning possible Echo bounce QSO's . . .



When Al's (K2UYH) parabola blew down, he got busy and built this 27 footer as a replacement.

"I was very much interested in your article in the November 1960 CQ concerning the possible Echo bounce QSO's of W7RT and W3AGT. After discussing the possibility of Echo bounce with a couple of friends and after a little work with a slide rule, encyclopedia, and the figures on Echo given in the W3ASK SPACE COMMUNICATIONS column, I derived the following figures, formulae, and conclusions:

"For any wave front of signal reaching Echo and the moon, the amount of signal reflected by each will be in the same ratio as their areas or the square of their diameters. The diameter of the moon is 1.4×10^7 feet and the diameter of Echo is 1.0×10^2 feet; using these figures the following formula represents the relative amounts of energy reflected by each sphere:

$$\frac{\text{Energy reflected by Moon}}{\text{Energy reflected by Echo}} = \frac{(1.14 \times 10^7)^2}{(1.0 \times 10^2)^2} = \frac{(1.3 \times 10^{14})}{(1.0 \times 10^4)} = \frac{1.3 \times 10^{10}}{1}$$

"The relative intensities per square unit area received by the moon and Echo from a transmitter on the Earth are inversely proportional to the square of the ratio of the distances and can be expressed as:

$$\frac{\text{Field strength at Echo}}{\text{Field strength at Moon}} = \frac{(1.0 \times 10^3)^2}{(2.38 \times 10^5)^2} = \frac{(1)^2}{(2.38 \times 10^2)^2} = \frac{1}{5.66 \times 10^4}$$

"In the above equation, 1.0×10^3 is the distance from the Earth to Echo in miles, and 2.38×10^5 equals the distance from the earth to the moon in miles.



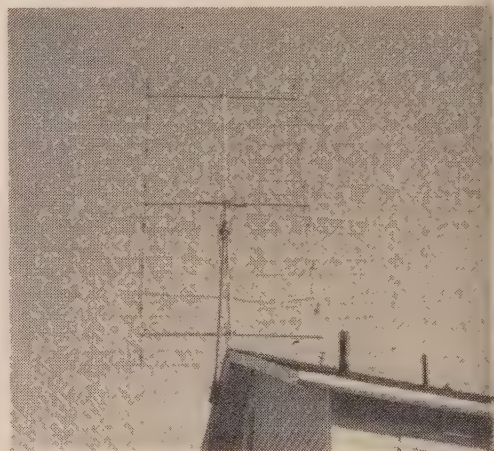
Here's a sampling of the handiwork at K2IUV. Looks like a nifty 2 meter converter—transistorized!

"Combining these two equations and taking the second as a factor twice, because the signals are diminished by the same degree on the return trip from the moon and Echo as they are on the incident trip, one may obtain the following equation showing the ratio of the strengths of the received signals after they have been reflected by the moon and Echo:

$$\frac{\text{Signal returned from the Moon}}{\text{Signal returned from the Echo}} = \frac{1.3 \times 10^{10}}{1} = \frac{1}{5.66 \times 10^4} = \frac{1}{5.66 \times 10^4} = \frac{1.3 \times 10^{10}}{32.03 \times 10^8} = \frac{1.3}{32.03} = \frac{4.35}{1}$$

or the moon would have a returned signal of 6.4 db over that of Echo.

"These figures show that if W7RT or W3AGT actually did work Echo bounce on 6 meters, their rigs would have no trouble producing a 6 meter moon bounce signal, because the moon would return a stronger signal, it can be tracked more easily than Echo, and the position of the moon



K2UYH's collinear array. Looks like 32 elements for 144 mc.

is known almost exactly at all times. It is, of course, ridiculous to assume that anybody could work 6 meter moon bounce with any run-of-the-mill kw; for that matter, nothing Sam, W1FZJ/W1BU, has dreamed up yet has been able to send a 6 meter signal to the moon and back either. If we hold that 6 meter moon bounce is impossible for W7RT and W3AGT, then we must assume that whatever they heard on those nights was something other than Echo bounce.

"In the equations used in this letter many variables, such as atmospheric loss and ionospheric reflection, have been disregarded because they would be in the ratio of one to one and would not change the result. The imaginary stations used for this experiment were assumed to be identical, and all variable conditions were defined as being equal in both the moon bounce and Echo bounce shots."

I think you'll agree that this is certainly the most complete analysis ever presented in this column and is a definite aid in the solving of

Echo-moon-bounce problems. Many thanks to you, Pete, for your invaluable information, and we hope to be hearing from you again from time to time.

More Moonbounce—VE7AIZ/VE3BZS

Alan Goodaire, VE7AIZ/VE3BZS/VE2, *big one, eh?*), sent along a huge letter, chock full of detailed reports on his 1959-1960 50 mc moonbounce attempts with W7RDY from VE7AIZ. W7RDY ran 800 watts to a six over six. The reception checks were at VE7AIZ through an elaborate set-up.

To quote, "The echos obtained by the 50 mc experiments show a retardation by the ionosphere. This is by an amount of say 100 times that to be expected by suing a simplified formula to calculate this.

"However 50 mc is a bit too low for the frequencies the formula I was using to be used at. The delay is about $\frac{1}{10}$ of a second or so and indicates a terrific amount of Faraday rotation took place. The m.u.f. was quite close to 50 mc during most of the experiments so the ionosphere no doubt had a profound effect on the signal.

"Because of low S/N ratio, definite conclusions are hard to reach. S/N of individual echos average about 1:1 I would say.

"VE7AIZ looks out to the east on several miles of salt water and elevation was about 200 feet.

"W7RDY had wood to the east but an otherwise clear shot.

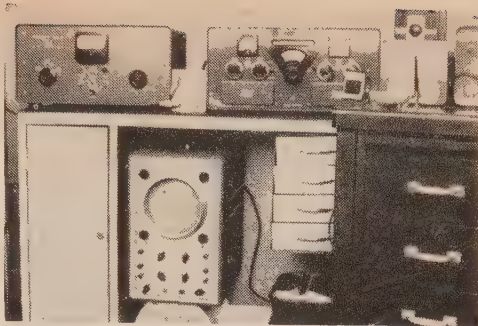
"Horizon at each location was provided by the Coast Range of mountains in Washington about 9000 feet high and 70 to 100 miles away.

"I am now at VE3BZS and will be building some new moonbounce equipment for 220 mc or possibly 144 mc.

"I feel personally that 1296 mc is impractical from a financial point of view and believe that 220 moonbounce will be successful at much lower cost.

"Ross, W4AO, has corresponded with me a lot and has been interested and very helpful in moonbounce problems.

"Bob, K6RNQ, also has shown much interest and we may do some 220 mc work. We had one unsuccessful 50 mc try but did some meteor scatter work.



Here's a partial view of the shack at KP4CK, Puerto Rico.

"Jud, K2CBA, wants to do some 220 mc moonbounce and I hope we can try this spring or summer if I can get over being lazy and get the gear built.

"Just thought I'd mention Gail's and my efforts regarding 50 mc moonbounce in case anyone else you know may be interested and also if any appreciable delay in echo return has been noticed in any "low" v.h.f. amateur (or professional) tries.

"I should think the main reason for lack of echo most of the time on 50 mc tests occurs from a combination of ionospheric effects as well as antenna pattern and ground reflection effects.

"My address is 2211 Greenlands Road, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, and would appreciate hearing from anyone interested."

New Antenna Releases!

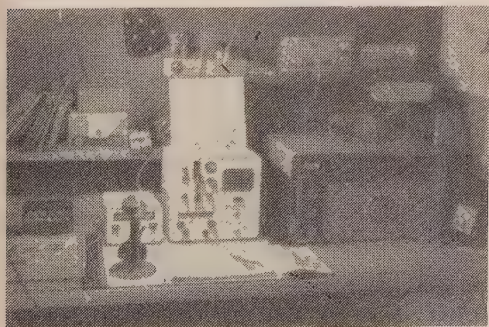
The Cush Craft boys (621 Hayward Street, Manchester, New Hampshire) have come out with a beautiful new line of v.h.f.-u.h.f. antennas. These are collinear arrays, 16 elements, for 144, 220, and 432 mc. They are made of aluminum tubing, made to take the weather, and have a claimed gain of 13.2 db. Cost? 2 meter array \$16.00, 220 mc \$12.85, and 432 mc \$9.85. Write for further information.

A new company in the v.h.f. antenna production business is the J. C. Mac Elroy Co., Inc., 74 Trinity Place, New York 6, New York. They are producing, among others, the "Cor-Mac 2 Meter Cubical Quad" which is a two element quad built from aluminum, requiring only pliers and a screw driver for assembly. I have seen this antenna at a local dealer's, and must say that if it works as well as it looks, it ought to be darned good. Gain figures and such are not available at this writing, so why not drop them a line for further info? Price is \$12.50.

Thirty

Well, this once again brings us to the "bottom of the stack." Let's make it bigger and more complete next issue, eh? Sit down and write us that letter you've been thinking about writing for such a long time and fill us in on the "doings" out your way. Remember: It's all up to you. Drop us a line now!

73, Bob, K2ZSQ



WA2JCQ, Jay Gross's, 6 meter station located in Westfield, New Jersey.



semiconductors

It has been some time since a piece of test equipment has been featured in the SEMICONDUCTOR COLUMN. The small test set to be described has two functions. First, it can be used to test the activity of various crystals and second, it can be used to check the operating frequency and performance of an unknown transistor. Both of these checks are not made as precise measurements, but more for comparison purposes.

How it Works—The oscillator is a familiar Pierce type with an untuned load in the collector circuit. With a 10 millihenry r.f. choke as a load, it has been found that crystals from 1 mc to 20 mc will oscillate with no capacity across the inductance. By adding a small 40 mmf capacitor, oscillation of crystals as low as 300 kc may be obtained. This may not be the most efficient circuit which could be used, however it is quite adequate for the purpose of testing crystals and transistors.

The amplifier, Q_2 , operates class B and uses the drive from the crystal stage to bias the base. As the amplifier receives more drive, it draws more current and produces a higher meter reading.

A 2500 ohm potentiometer is connected across the battery leads, and acts as a voltage divider for the d.c. delivered to the oscillator. By

marking the potentiometer dial from 0 to 9, the rotation of the potentiometer will provide a close approximation of the voltage applied to the oscillator. A rough idea of the sensitivity of the transistor can be obtained by noting how much voltage is required for oscillation. For surface barrier transistors, the potentiometer must be reduced to 4.5 on the dial to prevent exceeding their voltage rating.

Three types of crystal mountings are provided in this tester. A nine prong miniature socket is used for the small HC-6 types (metal can), while the FT-241 and DC-34 types plug into regular crystal sockets.

Checking Crystals—Crystals in the lower frequency range (300 to 500 kc) can be checked for activity by direct meter reading. The actual frequency of these crystals can be measured by listening to a broadcast band receiver. A 450 kc crystal has a second harmonic falling at 900 kc, for example. By connecting the antenna of the receiver to any point on the tester case, most crystals will provide sufficient output to be read up to the 10th harmonic. Thus, a 450 kc crystal could be measured at a frequency of 4.5 mc, which can be heard on any communications receiver.

When checking for comparison frequencies between two crystals at a harmonic frequency, remember to multiply the frequency difference times the frequency multiplication. As an ex-



Front view of Stuart C. Rockafellow's transistor and crystal tester.

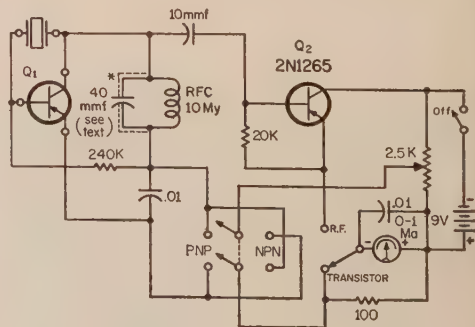


Fig. 1—Schematic diagram for the crystal and transistor tester by W8NJH. The PNP-NPN switch is a double-throw, while the switch used to connect the meter for r.f. or current measurement is a single-pole, double throw type.

ample, two 450 kc crystals are to be compared for frequency. By checking at the 10th harmonic we find that the frequency difference is 5 kc. The actual difference, then between the two crystals, is 500 cycles. Most crystals which are compared on their fundamental frequency can be measured by using the pitch control of the receiver.

Because of the nature of the circuit, some low frequency crystals may have to be "shocked" into oscillation. This can be done by flipping the power switch off and on.

Transistor Checking—Both PNP and NPN r.f. type transistors can be tested for functional operation in this tester. Any results from a particular transistor should not be indicative of that particular transistor as an r.f. amplifier. These tests will be more of a comparative nature and should be used as such. As an example, the 2N-1264 performs the same in these tests as a 2N-384, which costs several times as much. This does not mean that they are equal in their use but only that under these test conditions, they are similar.

It is very interesting to note that many audio type transistors, which are rated with a cut-off frequency of only 20 kc, will operate to 500 kc. Some oscillate as high as 7 mc!

Using the Tester—For comparison check, adjust the voltage dial to the same value for each transistor or crystal to be tested. Only with comparative voltage can the results be evaluated. Transistors that are rated to operate at 5 volts maximum (such as the surface barrier type) can be tested at this voltage by adjusting the voltage dial to only 5. A check for oscillation may be made by noting the amplifier current, or a change in oscillator current when the crystal is removed.

After using the tester for awhile, the reader will no doubt think of many other uses for it. For example, by connecting a short whip antenna to the base of the oscillator, it can be used as a field strength meter.

No construction details are provided for each reader will have his own ideas as to how it should be laid out. There is nothing critical about the circuit, but of course, short leads

should be used in the oscillator. If you would like to make it cover the full range from 300 kc to 20 mc, it might be an excellent idea to add an additional socket for connecting a 40 mmf capacitor in parallel with the collector inductance. Possibly a switch, at the "cold" end of the coil, could be used to place the capacitor in the circuit.

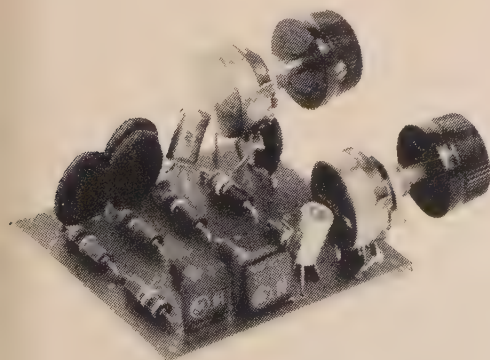
I would like to thank Stuart C. Rockafellow, W8NJH, 43450 Reservoir Rd., Plymouth, Michigan, for providing this information on his transistor and crystal tester.

Two-Tone Oscillator

While on the subject of test equipment, I believe many readers will be interested in the two-tone oscillator to be described. Actually the circuit first appeared in an article by D. W. Richards, W7UPF (Dec. 59, CQ). The circuit (fig. 2) was modified slightly to provide higher output and easier starting with less expensive and more readily available transistors. It consists of two transistors connected in a phase shift circuit. Signals appearing at the collector of the transistor are coupled through the associated capacitor to a three-element phase shifter consisting of 10K resistors and either .002 or .005 mf capacitors. In the .002 section, the phase shift is exactly 180° at 2500 cycles. The phase shifted signal appears at the base of the transistor and due to the action of the transistor, the signal is again shifted 180° in phase. The total shift of 360° permits the circuit to oscillate at 2500 cycles. A phase shift of 180° in the .005 section occurs at 1000 cycles, and the circuit oscillates at this frequency. These two audio frequency sources are mixed in the output and applied to a single sideband generator for two-tone linearity measurements.

Experiments by the author indicate that very high gain transistors are required for proper oscillation. The NPN type 2N169, recommended by W7UPF, and PNP type 2N217 provide satisfactory gain. Low cost transistors, such as the 2N1380, do not seem to perform properly. If the 2N169 is used, the emitter arrow in fig. 2 should

[Continued on page 116]



This two-tone single sideband test oscillator is smaller than a package of cigarettes. See text for circuit details.

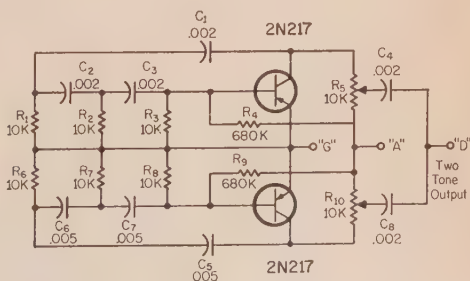


Fig. 2—A two-tone audio oscillator for s.s.b. exciter alignment. For best results, a 22.5 volt battery should be connected between "G" (positive) and "A" (negative). Output is taken between "G" and "D".

Last month we discussed radioteletype converters (TU's) in rather general terms, and we discussed in more detail the signal requirements of the receiving part of the machine. If you read that portion of the column carefully you learned that the teleprinter machine only requires 20% of each selecting pulse to print the correct character. "If that is the case," you might ask, "do we really need a complicated (and expensive to build) TU?" The answer is, you *don't*, if you just want to get acquainted with RTTY with the minimum of expense, or if you just intend to work a.f.s.k. on v.h.f.

So many letters from newcomers have asked us to recommend a simple TU with which to get started that we decided to give the matter of the design of such a unit considerable thought. First of all, it should be as simple as possible to build and to adjust, and secondly, it should cost as little as practicable. Other requirements considered were: it should be usable on either a.f.s.k. or f.s.k., it should provide for the use of an oscilloscope as a tuning indicator, and it should be possible to add easily such desirable features as plug-in filters (for band-pass and narrow shift), autostart, and an a.f.s.k. oscillator for v.h.f. use. So, keeping all of these things in mind, especially the 20%, we created this TU, for you, the newcomer.

The Twin City TU

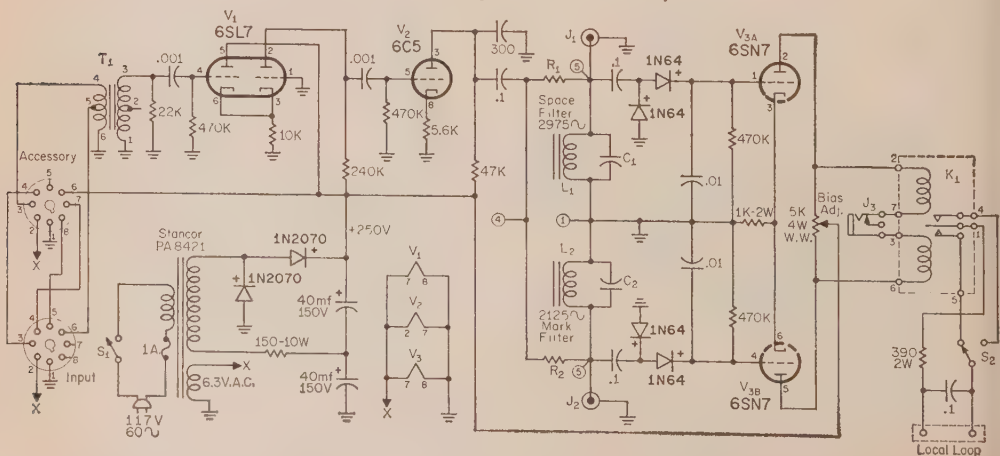
The Twin City TU, named for the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, is quite simple, employing only three tubes. It is an audio type of TU complete with the usual limiter and discriminator. A polar relay, the readily available

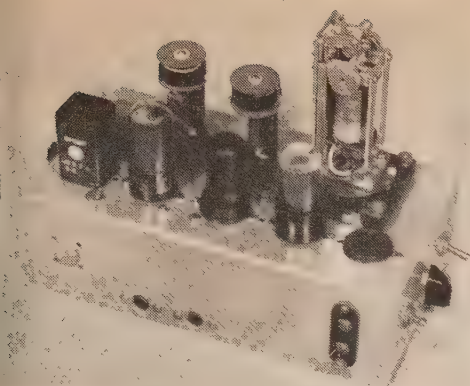
and inexpensive Western Electric 255-A, is used to key a local loop to operate the printer. A power supply is included, but any receiver supply that can provide about 250 volts at 50ma could be used. The plug-in channel "filters" are single L-C tuned circuits each with a single telephone loading coil as the "L." Not counting the few components in the channel filters, only 13 resistors and 11 capacitors are used, including those in the power supply! Only two transformers are used, a 49¢ surplus audio transformer and the power transformer. If you have been a ham for several years you should be able to build this TU right out of your junk box, except possibly for the toroid loading coils and the polar relay, which might be easily obtained if you have friends in the local telephone company. If you had to buy *everything*, at the usual radio parts store prices, the parts would cost you only about \$33.

The Circuit

Figure 1 shows the complete schematic diagram of the Twin City TU. Octal based tubes were used as they are more likely to be found in the junk box. If you wish, you can substitute miniature tubes; a 12AX7 for the 6SL7, a 6C4 for the 6C5, and a 12AU7 for the 6SN7. In addition, 1N54's or 1N69's may be substituted for the 1N64 diodes. An octal socket at the rear of the chassis is provided for the input connections. 150 or 600 ohm input impedances are available. The "accessory socket" on the top of the chassis is available for the possible future addition of a band-pass input filter or an a.f.s.k. oscillator. (The empty socket on the top of the

Fig. 1—Schematic diagram of the Twin City TU.





The Twin City TU, a simple RTTY converter.

chassis, visible in the photo, is for the future addition of another tube for autostart.)

The circuit, as you can see, is not complicated. The first tube, a 6SL7 dual triode, is connected as a cathode coupled limiter. With the input transformer used, complete limiting takes place at about -4dbm , or 0.5 volts r.m.s. input across 600 ohms. If we rate the TU at 100mw input ($+20\text{dbm}$) and operate it with that amount of input we have a range of limiting of about 24 db. The 6C5 is an audio amplifier used to bring up the limited audio to a suitable value for the discriminator. The channel filters are made plug-in for convenience. Normally, the MARK filter is tuned to 2125 cycles and the SPACE to 2975 cycles. Each tuned circuit is isolated with a series resistor, part of the plug-in filter assembly. The values of these resistors are chosen to provide equal d.c. voltages across each associated 470K discriminator load resistor. It will be noticed that a pair of diodes are used in each side of the circuit. These are connected in a voltage doubler arrangement in order to supply a relatively large d.c. voltage to swing each grid of the 6SN7 d.c. amplifier. The polar relay is connected in the plate circuit of the 6SN7, with positive high voltage fed to the arm of a 5000 ohm wire wound pot to permit balancing of the plate currents of the two triodes to balance the polar relay. Jack J_3 permits plugging in a zero center meter to check this balance. The contacts of the polar relay are connected to the LOCAL LOOP terminals through an R-C filter consisting of just one resistor and one capacitor. Switch S_2 is a reversing switch, a very handy device when someone is inadvertently sending upside down. Jacks J_1 and J_2 are used to connect an oscilloscope to use as a tuning indicator.

Plate and filament power for the TU are obtained from a Stancor PA-8421 transformer. This gives 6.3 volts at 2 amps for the heater circuit and 125 volts a.c. at 50ma for the two Texas Instruments 1N2070 silicon rectifiers which are connected in a voltage doubling circuit to supply 250 volts d.c. for the plate circuits. 100ma selenium rectifiers could be used in place of the silicon rectifiers, of course.

The Channel Filters

The channel filters were made plug-in for several reasons. First of all this makes it real easy to change values of the padding capacitors or the series resistor while you are in the process of tuning up. This wouldn't be easy if the filters were buried under the chassis. Second, the plug-in feature makes it possible to almost instantaneously plug in another set for other tone frequencies or to copy different values of shift.

The plug could be made from an old octal based tube but we used the Amphenol 86-CP8. The bakelite center locating pin was drilled out to pass a #6 round head wood screw $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long which screws into the bottom end of a $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch hardwood dowel. The toroid then is fastened to the top of the dowel, between two heavy cardboard washers, with another #6 round head wood screw, this one about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long. A soldering lug was put in between the dowel and the bottom washer to serve as a common connection. The padding capacitors and the resistor then lie against the wood dowel. The pin connections are the same for each filter: pin 4 is the input to the isolating resistor, pin 5 goes to the "hot" side of the L-C circuit for connection to an oscilloscope through J_1 , and J_2 , and pin 1 is the "low" side of the L-C circuit, which connects to ground.

Telephone loading coils about an inch in diameter are used as the tuned inductors L_1 and L_2 . Each toroid has two windings on it which are series connected for our purpose to give an inductance of about 88 mhy. The two coils on a toroid are usually separated by a plastic separating barrier. The two wires, one on each side of one of the barriers, are connected together to series the coils. The two wires on each side of the other barrier are then used for the external connections.

For the standard 850 cycle shift, the SPACE filter is tuned to 2975 cycles. This takes a total capacity of about 0.035 mf for C_1 . Use mylar, mica, or paper capacitors. *Do not use ceramic capacitors.* The isolating resistor R_1 is about 150K ohms. The MARK filter, tuned to 2125 cycles, took about 0.067 mf for C_2 . The isolating resistor was about 47K ohms.

Input Circuit

When no band pass input filter is used, a jumper plug with a jumper between pins 3 and 4 should be plugged into the ACCESSORY socket. Transformer T_1 has 600 ohms or 150 ohms impedance input (The secondary of the surplus transformer used was 19,000 ohms.) The INPUT socket provides either the 600 ohms or 150 ohms, with one side grounded. The 150 ohm connection can be used conveniently (without the jumper plug) to bridge across the voice coil output circuit of a receiver. The other connections not used for audio input are for future use of additional features.

Tune Up and Test

A vacuum tube voltmeter and an audio oscillator are about the only pieces of test equipment needed to tune up the Twin City TU. If you have an ordinary variable frequency audio oscillator you should check it with an active RTTYer and the dial should be marked for 2125 cycles and 2975 cycles as accurately as possible. A tuning fork standard, if available, would be an ideal check instrument. If you are in a city where a.f.s.k. is used, get a receiver on the frequency and get someone to send the tones to you during a low activity period. (This is the easiest way.)

With both channel filters plugged in, feed a 2975 cycle tone into the TU. Connect the v.t.v.m. across the 470K ohm load resistor for that part of the discriminator. (Pin 1 of the 6SN7 and ground.) Starting with about 0.033 mf for C_1 add capacitance until a definite peak is achieved. The v.t.v.m. should read around 10 to 20 volts. Now, feed in the 2125 cycle tone and connect the v.t.v.m. across the other 470K load resistor. (Pin 4 of the 6SN7 and ground.) Starting with about 0.047 mf for C_2 , add capacitors until resonance is reached. The v.t.v.m. should then read about 20 volts. Change back to 2975 cycles and read the voltage across the load resistor for that channel. The reading should be the same, within a volt or so, across either resistor, with the proper tone fed to the TU. If it is not, increase slightly the value of the isolating resistor, R_1 or R_2 , of the *higher* reading channel until both channels produce the same value of d.c. voltage.

The 6SN7 d.c. amplifier is balanced by plugging in a zero center milliampere meter in J_3 . With no input fed to the TU, the 5000 ohm BIAS ADJUST pot, on the front panel is then adjusted for zero current on the meter. Mark or otherwise note this setting of the control so that you can always come back to it. That's all there is to it.

Operation

The simple R-C filter in the contact circuit of the polar relay does a very good job of hash suppression, but to kill all traces of radiated noise, completely isolate your local loop circuit from ground and use two wire shielded cable for all local loop connections. A good solid ground on receiver, TU, and machine also makes a difference. And, as an added thought, balanced two wire or shielded (coax) antenna transmission line should be used to your receiver. The single long-wire receiving antenna just invites local loop hash pick-up.

An oscilloscope makes a fine tuning indicator when the Twin City TU is used on the h.f. bands. Just connect the vertical input to J_2 and the horizontal input to J_1 . A vertical trace, actually a narrow ellipse, will appear for the MARK and a horizontal trace, or ellipse, will appear for the SPACE. Just tune in an f.s.k. signal for an untitled cross. If you are getting a good 'scope indication and your polar relay is chattering in

a convincing manner, and your machine still prints gibberish, flip the turn-over or reversing switch S_2 . (Something is upside down—your tuning or his transmitter!) If you get *some* copy, maybe the station transmitting is sending a biased signal. Try swinging the BIAS ADJUST control first in one direction then the other while observing the copy. If the sending station *is* biased, you will be able to copy him at some setting of this control.

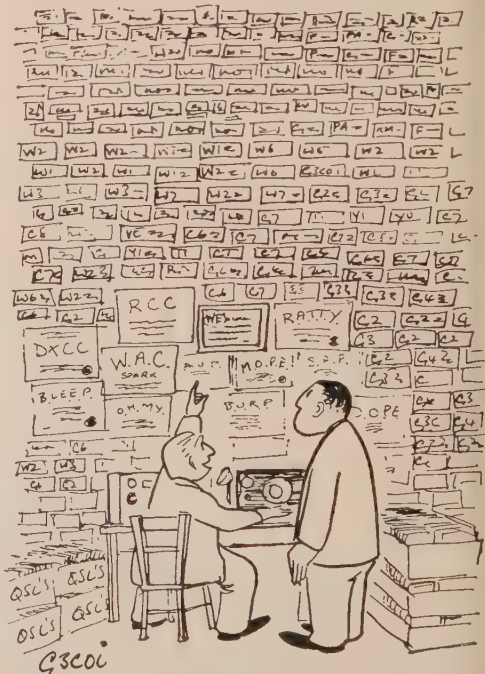
Parts Notes

The input transformer T_1 was obtained from Barry Electronics, New York City, for 49¢. Their catalog number is GH-1202-2. The polar relay and the polar relay socket might be obtained through W2ZKV, W3CRO, W6AEE, W7HRC, W9GRW, and WØATM, among many other sources. The 88 mhy loading coil toroids are available for \$1 each, postpaid, from Jack Pitts, W6CQK, 710 Madison Avenue, Redwood City, California. If you want to do it the easy way, Jack can also supply the completely tuned up plug-in filter units for only \$3.50 each, postpaid.

Comments

In order to bring you the complete story on the Twin City TU as soon as possible we ran a little short on space for the usual activity chit-chat this month. Now that you can get on RTTY with so little effort, look around 3620, 7140, 14,090, and 21,090 and see for yourself! Also, tune in next month and see what we can add to the Twin City TU.

73, Byron, KØWMR



"That one's a letter of appreciation from a QSL printer."



by Louisa B. Sando, W5RZJ
212 Sombrio Drive, Santa Fe, N.M.

YLRL 21st A.P. Scores Phone

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| W1ICV 3916* | K6VUE 1645* | K1EKO 78* |
| K1LCI 4353* | K6YOA 450* | K1DWH 356* |
| K1ADY 3936* | K6RLR 8456* | K2UKQ 1260* |
| K1IZT 11,285* | W7OUE 4410* | W4HWR/2 356* |
| W1ZEN 2640* | K7MRX 4830* | K2JYZ 2186* |
| K1EKO 1762* | W7TGG 6545 | WA2LOZ CFM |
| W1YPT 5832* | K7CHA 5253 | W2RUF 306 |
| K1DWH 925* | W7CSQ 6180* | W3TSC 162* |
| W2EWO 3212 | K7ADI 5640* | K3NLU CFM |
| K2ETC CFM | W7DIC 3895* | K4ZNK 25 |
| K2JYZ 8960* | W7HHH 1144 | K4RNS 1703* |
| WA2GPT 1323 | W7DIF 787* | K4DNL 165* |
| W2OWL CFM | K7JPI 373* | K4BKT CFM |
| W4HWR/2 1762* | W7NJS 170* | K4LSI 1080* |
| W5RFK/2 325* | K7CPB 1102 | K4TFL 560 |
| K3NMD 6062* | K7HSB 1050* | K5TXQ 3601* |
| W3MDJ CFM | K8MZT 7280* | W4KZT/5 2021* |
| K4ZNK 7980 | K8LHF 5940* | K5BNQ 2880* |
| W4CWV (op | W8VRH 3277* | K5LIU/5 4860* |
| W4LKM) 13,282* | W8WUT 1781* | K5BJU 3485* |
| K4RNS 8480* | W8HWX 5312* | K5YIB 3087* |
| K4DNL 8302* | K8ITF 3468* | K6QPG 2380* |
| K4BKT CFM | K8MQB 20* | W6QGQ 1537* |
| K4LSI 2850* | K9CQF 7353* | K6OWQ 1440 |
| K4CZP 4418* | K9TRP 4132* | WA6AOE 920* |
| W4HLF CFM | K9UJT 1072* | WA6CCR 446* |
| W4TVT CFM | K9TUD 4050* | W6JZA 87* |
| K5JXD 8612* | K9EVG 3312 | W6PCA 1282* |
| K5TXQ 5750* | K5OPS/Ø CFM | K6VUE 806* |
| W4KZT/5 4891* | K9HEU 7215* | K6OQD 400* |
| K5SBN 5700 | K9GIC 5346* | W7PUV 1343* |
| W5RZJ 1788* | K9TBV 3071* | K7ADI 123* |
| K5BNQ 14,300* | K9IKL 7735* | W7DIF 31* |
| K5YIB 13,920* | K9JFO 6565* | K7HSB 1125* |
| W5HWK 3277* | W9ZWL 3587* | K8LHF 1938* |
| K5MTF 594* | KH6DLD 4095* | K8MKG 1860* |
| K5BJU 13,735* | KH6CKO 1667* | K8ONV 1320* |
| K5OPT 10,465 | KL7BJD 3330* | W8WQE 891* |
| W5ZPD 9610* | KL7ALZ 1656* | K8HKU 1400* |
| K5PFF 2970* | KL7BBL CFM | W8NAL 1225* |
| K5OPV 1380* | KPAPX 4485* | W8HWX 650* |
| K5MXO CFM | XE1VS 162* | K8MQB 1080* |
| W6QGX 10,620 | CT1YE 1596 | W9MLE 3360* |
| WA6AOE 6750* | OA4GR 1364 | K9TUD 2612* |
| WA6CCR 5625* | ZS5OB 977* | K9EVG 408 |
| W6WBH 4515* | ZS2MH 151* | K9GIC 2700* |
| W6JZA 3150* | SZ6GH CFM | R9IKL 4125* |
| K6OQD 2025* | VE3DDA 488* | K9JFO 137* |
| K6EXV 5170* | VE6YW 736* | W9ZWL 593* |
| K6TFN CFM | G8LY 11* | KH6DLD 513 |
| W6GAI CFM | OH5SM 20* | KL7ALZ 925 |
| W6VSL 6693* | JA1YL 1050* | VE5DZ 768* |
| WA6EVU 3105* | JA1AEQ/Ø 60* | VE6ABV 770* |
| K6UHI 968 | | VE6YW 280* |
| K6KCI 11,210* | | VE7ADR 1035* |
| | | JA1YL 31* |
| | | JA1AEQ/Ø 1* |

CW

| |
|------------|
| W1ICV 168 |
| K1LCI 805* |

and the gold cup went to K5BNQ, Doris Anderson (YLRL president for '61). Doris placed first last year also. She had 176 contacts in 65 sections for 14,300 points (a phenomenal performance considering Doris was stalling her doctors until the contest was over before undergoing major surgery). K5YIB, Barbie Houston, placed second with 174 contacts in 64 sections for 13,920 points. Barbie has participated in every A.P. since '51, placing first in phone in '54, '55 and '56 as W3OQF, and the other years placing either within the top three on phone or c.w., or high score for her district, in '57 and '58 as KØLYV. In third place K5BJU, Harriett Woehst, earned 13,735 points for 164 contacts in 67 sections.

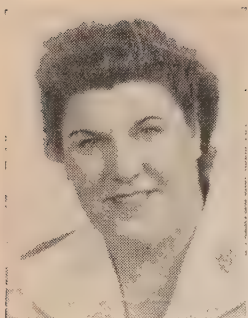


Dreaming over her mike? Not during the YLRL A.P., for sure, for K5BNQ, Doris, was winner in the phone section of this contest. YLRL president for '61, see write-up about Doris in CQ Nov. '60, p. 127.

W5IWL photo.

Results YLRL 21st Anniversary Party

Hats off to the gals who "battled it out" in YLRL's 21st Anniversary Party! In the Phone section of this contest particularly, the scores are always close and this year was no exception. In this section, held Nov. 2-3, 1960, top place



K5YIB, Barbie, placed second in the phone section of YLRL's 21st A.P. Since our last write-up, Barbie and Dick have added the S-line gear, but she still likes a.m. Barbie is custodian for WAC/YL. Send applications for this award to her at Box 652, Richardson, Texas.

In the c.w. section, held first this year, on Oct. 19-20, K5LIU/5, Mildred Wright, won the gold cup with 4,860 points earned for 81 contacts in 48 sections. She placed third high on c.w. in '56. KØIKL, Joyce Polley, came in second with 4,125 points for 75 contacts in 44 sections. Joy placed first last year and second in '58. In third place was K5TXQ, Evalyn Ewing, with 3,601 points for 67 contacts in 43 sections.

Congratulations also to K5BJU, Harriett, for winning the Corcoran Award, a handsome copper plaque donated by W8TPZ and her OM and awarded for the first time last year to K5BNQ (it takes a three-time win to retain it). The award is given for the highest combined phone/c.w. score. To her 13,735 points earned on phone, Harriett added 3,485 on c.w. for a total score of 17,220.

The YLs with the highest phone and c.w. scores in each section, U.S. possession, VE district and country will receive a certificate. Contest scores are in the box. Asterisk indicates low power multiplier. K3NLU, Lillian, YLRL's V.P. for '60, did the tremendous job of checking logs. She reports 367 YLs gave contacts in the Phone section; she received logs from 107. In the c.w. section 132 YLs gave contacts; 59 logs were received. There were many comments—such as why can't more YLs get on c.w., and why is everyone within a 10 kc spread—10 kc away on either side and you can get no one. But, we sure had a ball!

YL VHF Contest

W1ZEN, Onie, YLRL V.P. for '61, announces the first YL VHF Contest. Dates are April 12-13, 1961, and all licensed YL and XYL operators are invited to participate. Certificates will be awarded to the high scorers, and the YLRL member with the highest score will receive an award from WRONE. Complete rules in separate box.

Chix on Six

No doubt some of the YLs you'll be working in this v.h.f. contest will be members of Chix on Six. This is the only organized YL group in Northeastern Ohio and came into existence in June '59, after much work by K8MZT, W8WRH, W8VLF and W8OIS. The group meets on the air at 2100 EST every Wednesday from September through June and every other Wednesday during the summer. YLs from different areas

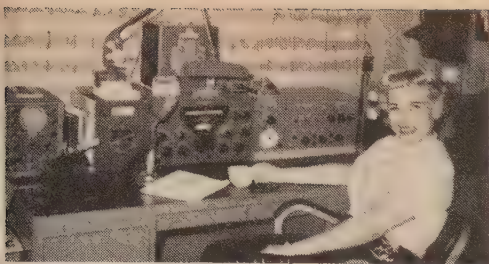
YL VHF Contest

- Time:** Start Wed. Apr. 12, 1961 at 12 noon EST.
End Thurs. Apr. 13, 1961, 12 midnight EST.
- Eligibility:** All licensed YL and XYL operators are invited to participate. YLRL members only are eligible for the WRONE award. Non-member high scorers will receive certificates. Contacts with OMs will not count.
- Operation:** Bands: 50 mc and above are to be used, phone and/or c.w. Crossband operation is not permitted. Only one contact with each station will be counted. A section may be counted only once as a multiplier.
- Procedure:** Call "CQ YL."
- Exchange:** Station worked, QSO number, RST report, ARRL section, U.S. possession, VE district or country. Entries in log should also show band worked at time of contact, whether A1 or A3, time of contact, date, transmitter and power.
- Scoring:** Multiply number of contacts by the total number of ARRL sections, U.S. possessions, VE districts or countries worked. Contestants running 50W input or less at all times may multiply the above result by 1.25 (low power multiplier).
- Awards:** Highest score—WRONE award (to a YLRL member only)
Top 3 scores will receive certificates.
Highest score in each ARRL section, U.S. possession, VE district and country will receive a certificate.
Highest Novice score will receive a certificate.
- Logs:** Copies of all logs must show claimed score, be signed by operator and be postmarked not later than April 28, 1961, and received not later than May 12, 1961. Send copies of log to W1ZEN, Onie Woodward, 14 Emmett St., Marlboro, Mass. No logs will be returned. Be sure it is a copy of log you send.

are called on 50.7 and 51.3 Mc. and then all join on 51.3. They also hold monthly meetings in members homes from April through Oct., with a party in Feb. Officers: Pres., W8OIS, Gerty; V.P., W8VLF, Joye; treas., W8WRH, Jackie;



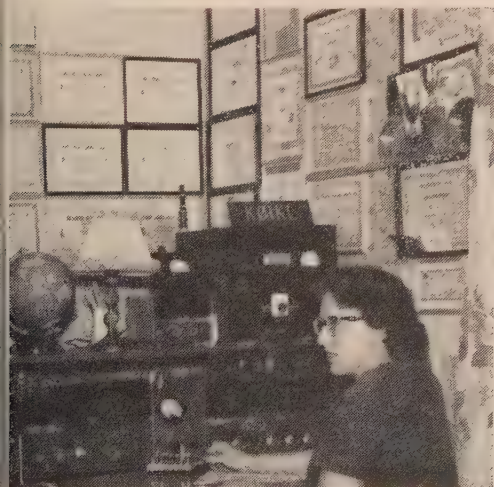
K5TXQ, Evalyn, made third high score on c.w. in the A.P. Her QTH is Shreveport, La., and she's been on the air only since Jan. '59, starting as a Novice. She loves DXing on 20 c.w. and does some s.s.b. phone on 10. K5TXQ holds WAS, WAC, WAC/YL, DX-YL, RCC, KG1-apprec. certificate, YLCC, many club certificates, and DXCC is close. Her OM is W5PJW and son Mark, aged 5, completes the family.



K5BJU, Harriett, placed third on phone in the A.P., and also won the Corcoran Award for combined high phone/c.w. score. Harriett started as a Novice in '55 with General a year later. She was founder and first president of GAYLARK. K5BJU operates all bands 80 through 10, with 15 her favorite, and prefers s.s.b. She and OM W5WVF can run a maximum of a kw and use a 75A4 receiver and 43-ft. tower with tri-bander beam and doublets on 80 and 40. K5BJU holds DXCC, WAS/YL, DX-YL, WAS, WAC, YLCC, YL-OM, WAC/YL, RCC and many club certificates. She is NCS for the YL S.S.B. net.

secy, K8MZT, Shirley; NCS for Cleveland area, K8IGD, Harriett; NCS for Akron area, K8PSE, Donna.

The Chix on Six offer a certificate for working eight members, and a sticker for each additional four YLs worked. Certificate custodian is K8PSE. At present there are 35 members: W8's EFB, OIS, SND, WRH, VLF; K8's DAW, IGD, JQH, KEW, KKP, MZT, NQD, OMT, ONA, OVC, PRY, PSA, OV, PSE, PXH, RGY, TCI, UEY, TUK, UOJ, VH, VKT, VMV, VMY, VNZ, WFM, VMW, WUO, TCG; KN8SEC. The



KØIKL, Joy, placed second on c.w. in the A.P. She placed first last year and second in '58. Since these write-ups Joy has added (to her WAS, WAC, YLCC-350, DX-YL and KKK) P-6-K (from Russia), United Nations Award—Class 3, WAC-YL, and she has sent for Worked All Canada, Keystone, and WAS-YL. She chases DX on c.w. and s.s.b. and has 117 countries worked, 93 confirmed. On Nov. 15 a little jr YL arrived to join the two boys in the KØIKL-VE1EG family.

Chix on Six were official hostesses at the Cleveland Convention last fall and already are planning for the next one. They also help other gals master theory and code to obtain licenses. Most of the girls are active in net or traffic work. W8OIS is NCS for the Cleveland Thunderhead Net, a weather net very valuable to the area. W8WRH is NCS, using call W8BSH, for Akron CD and active on MARS-Air Force net. K8PSE also is active with this group. K8KKP and her OM K8KKO have several awards for rescue work done in Cleveland area during flood and disaster of last spring. W8EFB monitors a mobile frequency in Painsville area and handles weather and accident messages. Many belong to the Apricot Net, an emergency net ready at all times. K8MZT handles much traffic and phone patches from KG1FR and other military bases.

Here and There

Remember the dates of the 12th Annual YL-OM Contest: Phone—Feb. 25-26; C.W.—Mar. 11-12. Complete rules in February CQ.

Our condolences to the families of the following YLs. Pita Gilchrist, ZL2ABJ, was drowned in a rescue attempt on January 1st. Pita had been "adopted" as a DX YL member of YLRL by the Chirps for several years. . . . Also from K6ENK we learn of another YL who has become a Silent Key. Dora Abbott, K6KCJ, died December 24th of a kidney infection resulting from a Caesarean section, leaving OM Neil, K6SYE, with several jr. ops.

And on the nets we learn that W9RUJ, Mary, suffered a stroke in Dec. Come on, Mary, we're all plugging for you—just gotta hear that cheery voice on the air again!

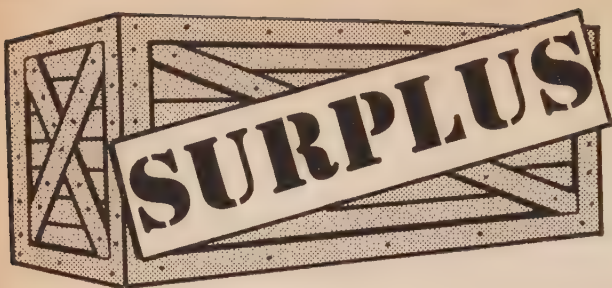


K5LIU, Mildred, won the c.w. section of the 21st A.P. Mildred got her ticket in '54 and has been active mostly in contests and on 20 c.w. She has placed third high twice in c.w. section of the YL-OM contests. Mildred served as YLRL V.P. in '57 and at the time her call was W3YTM. This photo was snapped at the end of the 1960 YL-OM contest.

Do You Have . . .

. . . your copy of "CQ YL", the one and only book about the YLs? 18 chapters, over 500 photos, it covers all phases of YL participation in Ham radio. Order from W5RZJ (QTH at head of column, \$3, postpaid.

33, W5RZJ



by **KEN GRAYSON, W2HDM**
 Care of CQ 300 West 43rd Street,
 N. Y. C. 36, N. Y.

Well, if you were reading the column last month you know that this is the last one of the SURPLUS COLUMN series. From now on, all conversions will be by articles, not column. This should promote a lot more interest in surplus from one point of view. It will allow the reader the chance of thinking that he can contribute. Actually, readers contributions were always welcomed, although we didn't get too many surplus conversions.

After three years it seems a little strange not having to meet deadlines, and rack your brain trying to solve Joe Ham's conversion problem by remote control. Frankly, we don't know what we are going to do with the spare time that we are going to have on our hands, such as Sunday mornings at 3 AM, when we manage to stagger home from a date and decide that such and such can be converted a new way, and then do it. We won't miss the thousands of letters that we have answered, or the many offers of surplus we have had to refuse. Some day the family will say, "Thank God the ham station's out of the house."

Surplus equipment has become much too sophisticated for many hams. We tried to point this out last month. New equipment is constantly being designed which, in years to come will make the ham shack more like a laboratory. Take the 3 to 36 mc transceiver we worked on, for example. No bigger than a modern receiver, this is a full kilowatt on c. w. or s.s.b. and a fine receiver, plus the fact that the single crystal controlled synthesizer allows the user to select any frequency within the operating range in multiples of 1 kc. The final was liquid cooled by being completely immersed in a flourine compound with the final and all transmitter stages automatically tuned. Clever eh! This is not science fiction, but something that is here right now. Or how about a receiver that is no bigger than a tenth of a cubic foot that covers 1.7 to 2.3 kilomegacycles (thousands of megacycles) with a noise figure of less than 16 db and can operate on any of ten crystal controlled channels for a.m. or f.m. applications. (see Space-Aeronautics, Jan. 1961 p. 134). This is the kind of stuff our surplus is going to be in the not too

distant future. This is, therefore, the reason why the column is going, going, gone. The time it takes to convert the latest surplus is longer than can be satisfactorily done in one month intervals.

Surplus has grown a lot in the last fifteen years since we got out of the service and there is a lot more growing to do. Right now, we have to keep running to keep up with it. Right now we have about three really nice conversions that should be in print in the very near future. About all that we can say is that it is a shame that we have to take so long in the development of the conversion, but we feel that they are worthwhile waiting for.

Surplus Dealers

We have often been asked for a list of addresses of reliable surplus dealers. Just about now we managed to come up with such a list and feel that there couldn't be a more appropriate time to list them than in our last column, so here they are:

- G & G Radio Supply Co., 75-77 Leonard St., New York 13, N. Y.
- Arrow Electronics, 7035 Laurel Canyon Blvd., N. Hollywood, California*
- R. E. Goodheart Co., P.O. Box 1220, Beverly Hills, California
- Rex Radio Supply Co., 84 Cortlandt St., New York 7, N. Y.*
- Herbach & Rademan Inc., 1204 Arch St., Phila. 7, Pa.*
- Selectronics, 1206 S. Napa St., Phila. 46, Pa.*
- Quaker Electronics, Plymouth, Penna.*
- Alltronics-Howard Co., Box 19, Boston 1, Mass.*
- Fair Radio Sales, 2133 Elida Road, Box 1105, Lima, Ohio*
- Spera Electronic Supply, 37-10 33rd St., LIC 1, N. M.*
- Barry Electronics, 512 Broadway, N. Y. C. 12, N. Y.*
- Atlantic Industrial Company, 101-38 91st St., Ozone Park 17, N. Y.
- Electronic Research Labs., 715 Arch St., Phila. 6, Pa.*
- U.S. Number 1 Electronics, 1920 Edgar Rd., Linden, N. J.*
- AlvaRadio, 5205 Lankershim Blvd., N. Hollywood, California*
- Columbia Electronics, 4365 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, California*
- L & R Electronics, 3529 East Colorado, Pasadena, California*

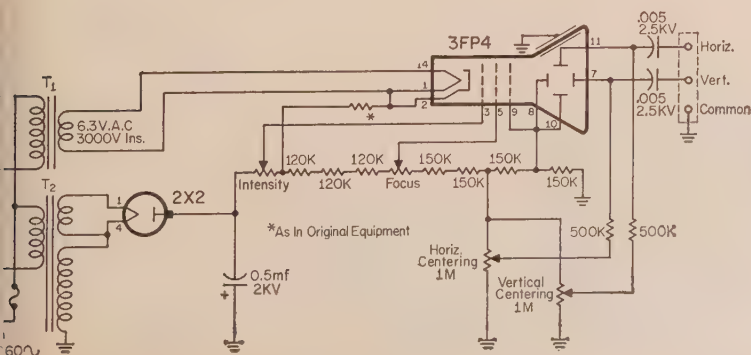
Has catalog or catalog sheet on request.

The APS-4 indicator is useful around the shack as a modulation monitor. As it stands, this device consists of a scope assembly, ID-11/APS-4 and the amplifier AM-5A/APS-4. We originally mentioned this equipment a few months ago and apparently were in error about Rex Radio having the conversion as well as the kits. As a result we figured one out and present it now in an effort to clean up last minute business. The conversion itself is relatively simple. We make use of the bleeder circuit of the original unit and add a power supply and a few parts. The bleeder sits across 1500 volts and supplies the necessary voltages for the scope tube. The scope tube is a 3FP7 long persistence type tube. It comes in a housing that includes a magnetic shield, as well as the housing for two J6 tubes and a method of mounting in a meter hole of a panel. A heavy cable connects to the amplifier unit which houses the bleeder string as well as the video amplifier and sweep amplifiers, both of which serve no purpose in the conversion. We left the amplifiers alone and merely built a power supply to operate the scope, on top of the amplifier housing. A better solution would be to remove the bleeder components and place them within the transmitter, which may also be able to supply the necessary voltages for the bleeder, about 2 ma at 1500 volts. The filament transformer within the unit is designed for 100 cycle operation and must be replaced with

As mentioned before, the positive side of the bleeder voltage is grounded. The negative side of the 1500 volts is connected to the control grid lead of the scope tube which is a heavy insulated gray wire with a blue and yellow tracer which is connected to the 0.0051 mfd high voltage mica capacitor. The filament transformer will have to be replaced with one for 60 cps and a good one is the Stancor P-8190. Under no circumstances should any other tubes be operated from this transformer, since it will be at a very high negative voltage across the output to ground.

A Stancor P-8150 transformer is used for the high voltage. This together with the rectifier and filter could have been mounted within the amplifier, with a little effort, but since this is going to be redesigned for a more permanent installation here at W2HDM, we left it in a safe status for later, by mounting the parts on the amplifier cover.

(Continued on page 118)

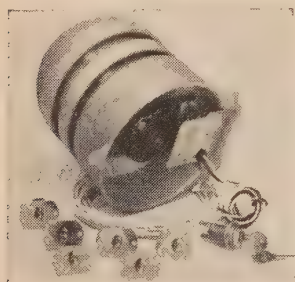


March, 1961 • CQ • 97

New Amateur Products

Power Meter

A NEW line of r.f. power meters for the frequency range of 100 kc to 200 mc is announced by Electro Impulse Laboratory, Inc., 208 River St., Red Bank, N. J. These Power Meters, both feed-through and terminative type, are similar to the company's regular line of r.f. power meters for the limited frequency range, which makes them considerably lower in price. Ten models from 1½ watts full scale to 1500 watts full scale are available. Prices start at \$60.00 and go up to \$250.00 for a six scale Power Meter covering 1½ watts full scale to 600 watts full scale. Two models are available in the feed-through power monitor type from 15 watts up to 150 watts at \$115.00 and \$135.00. More information may be received by circling A on page 126.



Noise Generator

A NEW reasonably priced random-noise generator has been announced by Gonset. Intended for operation in the v.h.f. range, this new generator provides direct readings of sufficient accuracy for average laboratory use. The noise-generating head is a separate compact assembly which connects to the main housing by a flexible cable. This arrangement allows the head to be attached directly to the receiver under test and eliminates long connecting leads which can make accurate noise measurements difficult due to stray signal pickup. The type 5722 noise diode and associated circuitry is located within this external head which fits into a clamp on the side of the housing when not in use.

The instrument provides direct reading to 25 db into 50 ohm impedances. The large-scale panel meter facilitates accurate reading of low noise figures. Filament of the noise generating diode and random-noise output, is controlled by a variable autotransformer. Rapid checking of residual starting noise is expedited by a panel switch which temporarily cuts off diode current without need to change filament voltage settings.

A self-contained power supply operates from 117 volts a.c., and uses diode rectifiers, providing regulated d.c. operating voltage. Noise diode with quick-heating filament and semi-conductor diode rectifiers in power supply virtually eliminate warm up time.

Additional information may be obtained by circling C on page 126.

Mobile Alarm

ZIMCO Alarms at 2005 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn 33, New York is manufacturing a siren alarm which is housed in a tamper proof cast aluminum housing. The alarm can be ordered with 6, 12, 24, or 32 volt d.c. motors or 115 v.a.c. Six push button switches are included which can be mounted on the door post, trunk lid etc. Once the siren is actuated it must be turned off with a key which is also supplied. The unit can be purchased as a kit or installed by the manufacturer. For more information circle B on page 126.



"On The Air"

STEELER Electronics, at 1621 Winn Joyce Road, Box 82, Garland Texas is manufacturing an "On The Air" sign which lights up when attached to an antenna relay or other switching device which will supply 6-12 or 110 volts a.c. or d.c. The voltage requirements must be specified when ordering. Designed for table-top or wall mounting the unit is constructed of heavy gauge steel and has a snap-out back plate for easy removal of the long life bulbs. Dimensions are 10½" long, 3½" high and 3" deep. A choice of black or gray finish is offered. Check D on page 126 for more information.



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For further information, check number 38, on page 126

From the Boys in the Back Room



HERE's big news that should really be well-received by all readers. By carefully negotiating with our printer, we've been able to cut production costs for classified advertising (Ham Shop) and can pass the savings along to readers who use this popular section. Effective with the April issue, rates for *Non-Commercial* classified ads will be slashed to 5¢ per word. In addition, the minimum charge of \$1.00 has been dropped, so you can get your message across to fellow hams for pennies, if you wish.

We expect this action to result in thousands of new classified advertisers, so please make sure that your ads are carefully typed or neatly printed wherever possible.

Remember, this section belongs to you! Use it often and use it wisely. It's your best method of selling or buying the gear you want.

ND NOW

METERS WITH THE

NEW *hy-gain* "hy-seven"

**40 METER MONOBANDER WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY NEW
"LINEAR LOADING"**

NO COILS

Now you can make 40 meters come alive with true beam performance for your rig. For the first time the Hy-Gain Hy-Seven two element 40 meter beam develops excellent forward gain and front to back in a reduced size, light weight antenna without the use of lossy loading coils. Reduction in element length is accomplished by the introduction of the new concept of linear loading. It results in three important new advantages:

1. A small easy to install antenna, that stays up!
2. Much higher efficiency than coil loaded types.
3. Virtually impervious to all weather conditions.

Like all Hy-Gain beams, the Hy-Seven is factory pretuned ready for quick and easy assembly. It's also tops in mechanical construction — with a 1 year guarantee to prove it!

SPECIFICATIONS

Mechanical: Boom, 16' x 2" O.D.; Longest Element, 43'; Material, all aluminum, high impact; Cycloc plastic and irridite treated steel hardware. Net weight only 24 pounds.

Electrical: Element spacing .13 wave lengths; Matching system, adjustable Beta; SWR at 52 ohms, 1.0 to 1.

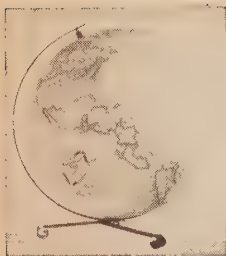
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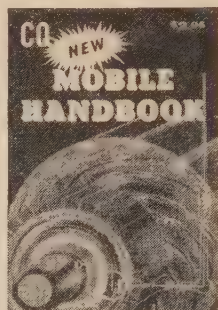
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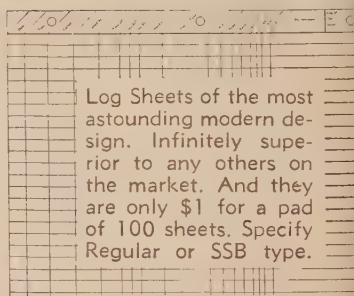
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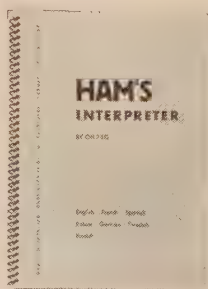
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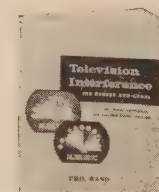
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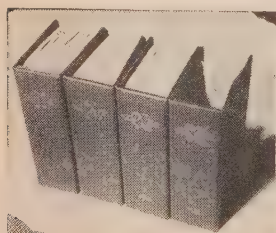
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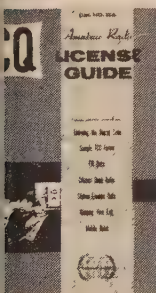
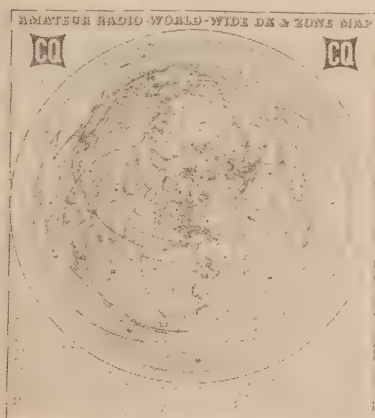
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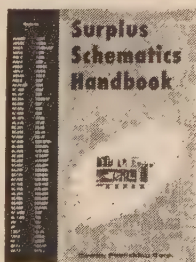


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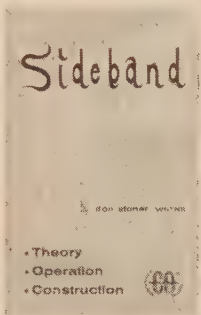
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Written by Don Stoner, W6TNS, was almost one full year in the preparation of this terrific volume. This is not a technical book. It explains sideband, showing you how to get along with it... how to keep your rig working right... how to know when it isn't... and lots of how to build-it stuff, gadgets, receiving adaptors, exciters, amplifiers. Price, only \$3.00.



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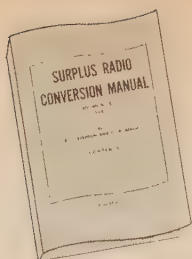
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Announcements [from page 16]

16th Annual Old Timer's Nite Round-Up

The 16th *Original* Old timers Nite Round-Up and banquet will be held on a Saturday evening, April 29th, 1961, in the Terrace Room of the Hotel Stacy-Trent in downtown Trenton. As in the past the party will be stag.

This annual event, sponsored by the Delaware Valley Radio Association is held during the month of April, to honor the living pioneers of the radio and wireless art, and to reminisce on their experiences of yesteryear.

A turkey dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 P.M., and the program will include personalities prominent in early radio history. Bring along your oldest amateur and commercial licenses, as awards will be made to those holding the earliest dates. A special Silver Cup Award will go to the "Grand OM", whose radio operating experiences date back to earliest days of wireless.

Tickets are by reservation only, and may be obtained by mailing a self-addressed envelope, on or before April 24th, with your remittance of \$6.00 per man, to Ed G. Raser, W2ZI, 19 Blackwood Drive, Trenton 8, N.J., the General Chairman. Late comers will be assessed \$7.00 at the door. Plan to bring along as many guests as you wish, everyone is welcome.

Auto-Mate [from page 53]

to the chassis when you receive the kit. The remaining parts are mounted in a few minutes, and almost immediately the builder commences the wiring operation. Working very carefully so as to observe any ambiguities in the instructions, your reviewer took about seven hours to complete the keyer. Happily, no ambiguities were found. In fact, the instructions are unusually complete and very detailed.

All connections are made at the rear of the keyer. With the exception of the a.c. line cord, connections may be made through a single 9 pin chassis socket. Two jacks are provided, additionally. One is a 2 conductor jack for high impedance headphones, or speaker, for side-tone monitoring. The other is a 3 conductor jack for a key-lever. The key-lever is, of course, not included in the kit. Controls for d.c. balance adjustment and side-tone volume are also provided.

Controls

The MARK/SPACE control on the front panel changes the ratio of DOT to SPACE (Not DOT to DASH). At MARK the dots are quite heavy. At SPACE the dots are very light. As suggested in the instructions, a mid-point setting was found satisfactory. At high speed settings, though, the dots should be set on the heavy side to compensate for the inherent inertia of the relay armature.

The RANGE switch selects either the 5 to 17 w.p.m. speed or the 15 to 50 w.p.m. speed. Within the range selected, the SLOW/FAST knob smoothly varies the speed of dot and dash completion. The dots and dashes are "self-completing," and with the keyer adjusted for the very slowest speed it is interesting to hit the dash side of the key-lever and "walk away" while the keyer lazily completes an extraordinarily long dash.

The keyer quickly indicates sloppy practice by sending characters never before heard. ■

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Letters [from page 14]

20 db is the top signal. Likewise, if he reported S9 + 20, S9 + 20, it would mean his signal was equal to the top signal he is hearing. If he reported S9 + 20, S9 + 30, it would mean he is 10 db better than the top signal heard at that time. This type of report would be of value to someone testing a new rig or antenna, etc.

When using such a system we would not hear these ridiculous reports such as: "Your signal is S6, but my meter is very scotch." Or, "You are S9 + 60, but I have a liberal meter." Or, "You are only S5, but S5 is the strongest signal I have ever heard on this receiver." Or, "I have a poor receiving antenna", etc., etc. This type of suggested report would take into consideration: (1) Location, (2) Receiver, (3) Antenna system, (4) Even cockpit trouble; and would eliminate lengthy questioning of the operator desiring a report, and would help the receiving station to give a report without making excuses for his equipment, location, antenna, etc.

Please give this some thought, and if possible, ask the gang to consider this method or some method which would make our report system of some value.

Charles Endres, W6PJ

Propagation [from page 65]

It is entitled, "The Sunspot Story; Cycle 19—End Of An Era," and will appear in three parts beginning with the April issue of *CQ*.

Part I will deal with the ionosphere in general, and how skywave propagation takes place. Part II, appearing in May, will discuss sunspots, their influence on radio propagation, and their general behavior. Included in Part II will be a sunspot forecast for the remainder of the present cycle, and for the remainder of the century! Part III, appearing in June, will contain a band-by-band forecast of propagation conditions expected during the next five years, including a summary for the v.h.f. bands. The article will conclude with a brief look beyond the present cycle, through the remainder of the century.

It is believed that the Jacobs-Leinwoll report will be the most comprehensive ever written on the subject of the solar cycle and its influence on conditions in the various amateur bands. *Don't miss it.*

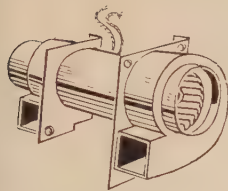
TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Ten years ago this month I took on the task of *CQ's* Propagation Editor. My first column, appearing in March 1951, attempted to carry on the excellent work of Perry Ferrell, who had inaugurated the column in *CQ* a few years earlier.

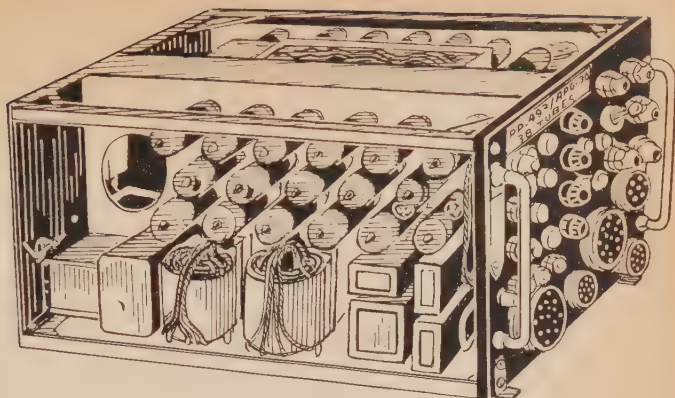
A very large number of sunspots have passed across the face of the sun during the past ten years (one complete cycle, in fact) and much propagation history has been made (record breaking solar activity, world-wide DX on 60 meters, satellite and moon-bounce, etc.). But my most rewarding experience as Editor of this column has been the warm response the column has received over the years from its readers.

I want to take this opportunity, on the tenth anniversary of my Editorship, to thank all of you who, through the years, have taken the time

38 Tube Aircraft Electronic Gun Control



(BLOWER)



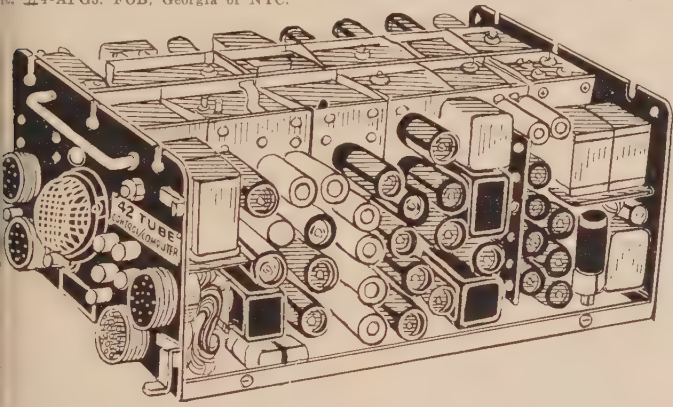
Unit contains many precision parts for the experimenter. Tubes include: (1) 0A2, (1) 2D21, (1) 6AQ5, (2) 6AH6, (1) 6AS6, (2) 6J6, (5), 6X4W, (2) 12AT7, (5) 12AX7, (2) 5654, (4) 5670, (1) 5725, (3) 5726, (8) 6005/6AQ5W. Parts include (6) tube 30 Mc. I. F. Strip, 28 VAC or DC dual squirrel cage blower with R. F. filter, (5) hermetically sealed relays, (11) potentiometers, (5) BNC chassis connectors, 5 & 10% Allen Bradley resistors. Metallized paper capacitors, silver mica capacitors, 1% precision resistors and many other parts too numerous to mention. Good used condition. Furnished complete with a movable cover.

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type which cost Govt. over \$1.00 each. These sockets are excellent for "low-loss" VHF use. Most tubes come with modern heat-leak shields. Interesting, plug in, sectionalized construction. (4 Basic units). Units are in good condition, removed from equipment, complete with all tubes. There are many, many other useful and valuable components such as connectors, blower, xfmrs, Vitamin Q Capacitors, etc., etc. This unit is one of the best values we have advertised in some time. Wt.: 28 lbs.—Size: 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "H x 10"W x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ "D. Furnished complete with removable cover. (Govt. cost \$1068.00 each). Tube alone worth almost twice our low price of **\$19.95**

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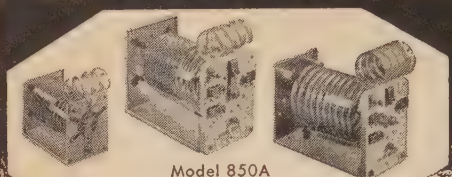
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For further information, check number 24, on page 126



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to drop me a line expressing your thoughts and ideas about the column. I also feel that special thanks should go to the publishers of *CQ* for recognizing the importance of propagation forecasts, and for leading the field of technical publications in bringing this information to radio amateurs.

Beginning my second decade with *CQ*, I'm looking forward with great excitement to reporting on these pages the spectacular events that are certain to unfold in the field of radio propagation during the years ahead, as man unlocks more and more of nature's secrets.

73, George, W3ASK

Mobile Selectivity [from page 35]

The two crystals should be one kc apart at the output frequency of the converter. This will result in a passband of approximately two kc (about the sharpest useable for phone reception). Some of the advertisers in this magazine will grind these crystals to order for less than ten dollars for the pair. If surplus crystals are used, be sure they have matching characteristics.

The resistor should be hand picked for the individual filter. Too low a resistance will result in a dip in the middle of the passband. Too high a resistance will result in poor skirt selectivity. In my case, the optimum resistance was 2,200 ohms.

This filter has a flat passband of approximately two kc with steep skirt selectivity and negligible ringing. I have found it to be the best solution to the problem of mobile selectivity. ■

Novice [from page 73]

and in the process I have given about 300 Novices their first VK on 7 mc. I am OK for skeds with Novices in any state, and as usual will be on 7148-7150, every day at 0330 EST during February through June. I will welcome skeds with Utah Novices and will send my "special" home brew handpainted card to those I work. You can see how anxious I am to make that WAS-Hi. Meanwhile, here is my list of Novices called or worked between Aug. 5th and Dec. 9th: KN1MXR, NOT, NSH, OLP, WV2KBB, LEY, OAC, KN3KSN, KTT, LET, LEO, LGJ, LSC, LXW, MPT, NFO, KN4BAQ, BTU, UXD, WKE, WKO, WMY, WNA, WVK, YEJ, YPN, YXN, KN5ARG, BDQ, BMJ, CGS, SHG, SDI, DUI, EJR, ZOS/7, WH6DSF, DUG, DUL, DWT, DVI, WV6DUL, JCF, KRY, KCL/4, KEQ, KJN, KXN, LAM, LKZ, LPW, MVF, MWG, MZU, NCU, NOP, NUH, TRJ, KN7 KPT, KXG, LGS, LHE, LPF, LSM, LUX, NIE, NGO, NNX, MEG, MJR, KN8LMJ, RHV, RXC, SBU, SLW, TDF, TLX, UGL, UJK, KN9AIB/9, VWC/9, WMH, WYI, YDH, YMI, YNI, YNU, YPW, ZHN/9, ZLF, ZWH, KNØ-ALX, BNF, DDT, YET. Good luck, Ivor, on that 50th state- Hello Utah!



THIS is the microphone for mobile use **THE TURNER 350C**

Good performance on mobile operations — citizen's band, 2-way commercial radio and amateur radio — requires a microphone designed for mobile use. Tape recorder type mikes can't do the job. The Turner 350C is a reasonably priced, ceramic microphone especially designed for quality voice reproduction. DPST switch is wired for relay operation with easily reversible terminals to allow modification (if necessary). A wiring diagram is enclosed with each microphone. Hanger button and standard dash bracket are included for mobile rig mounting. Microphone furnished with 11" retracted (five foot extended) Coiled Cord. Response: 80 to 7000 cps. Output: -54 db. List price: \$16.80 complete. See your electronic parts distributor. He has the Turner 350C in stock.



THE MICROPHONE COMPANY
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Cedar Rapids, Iowa

For further information, check number 26, on page 126

ARMCHAIR PHOTOGRAPHER

In this hectic era of space stations and amphibious autos, far be it from us to criticize progress. And yet, we shake our cranium a bit sadly, and we reminisce a bit remorsefully to the days not so long ago when we hadn't yet traded our souls for do-it-yourself kits. And looking back, we remember when the pioneer of the do-it-yourself phaze was the died-in-the-wool ham who built and serviced his own station.

Even so, we must force a faint smile as we remember that even the true-blue old timer occasionally referred to CQ to solve a tricky problem or refresh his memory on a technical point.

Mind you, we're not opposed to progress. We just realize that there are so many new phases of our hobby being developed today that CQ has become a second right arm to its regular readers. And those hams who only occasionally happen to browse through a copy of CQ... oh, well! Some hams still like to do things the hard way.



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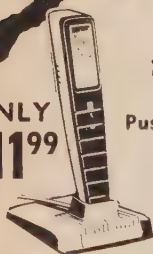
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W9—Norman Wagner, 4736 Monticello, Chicago 25, Illinois

Letters

Joseph E. Trahan, KN1NIB, RFD 2, Goffstown, New Hampshire, wonders about using the Lysco 40 watt tank coils in the "Novice Kilo-watt," featured some months ago. Sure Joe, they will work fine, just use the same pin connections as in the Lysco. The capacitors may be any ole variables taken out of a discarded radio.

Thomas H. Whiteley, Box A-992, Orlando A.F.B., Florida has graduated from the Novice ranks and now holds call letters WA6FCO/4. Since his Novice days, Tom has gone into the A.F. as a radio operator, and during the New Year's weekend was on the air for 20 hours and 30 minutes and worked 30 states plus three countries. He is trying for WAS and would like skeds with 1's, R. I. Wisc., Ark, all 7's, Ø's, KL7 and KH6. Tom can get on anytime and will sked anyone needing Florida.

WV2MHY, 16 Colliidge St., Larchmont, N. Y. neglected to send along his handle but did say that he is 14 and in the ninth grade. OM MHY pumps away on 3721, 3735, and 7182 with a DX-20 and S-38E into a dipole with traps for 40 meters, and will sked anyone for any reason. He hopes a magic wand will soon change them into a DX-60 and SX-140 feeding a beam! WA-2MHY says for a cheap Conelrad alarm, take an old B.C. radio and replace the speaker with two parallel connected pilot lamps. As long as they keep flashing, you know the radio station is on the air.

Bud Hart, K6MQX, 1157 French St., San Luis Obispo, Calif., is no longer a Novice, but still eavesdrops on the column. His lashup includes an RME4350, plate modulated DX-35, 10-15-20 meter trap vertical, 40 meter vertical, 20 meter dipole, 40 meter doublet, and an 80 meter doublet (wadda antenna farm!). On the credit side Bud has a WAS of 46/43, DXCC 16, including ZL, VK, LU, and KS4. Sound like a "going concern?" Well Bud is 15 and ended his Novice days at 12!

Want to work the North Pole? Dick Taylor, KI1FS/KL7, Box 1570, Fairbanks, is stationed at North Pole, Alaska, a small town about 12 miles SE of Fairbanks. Dick operates with a GSB-100 and NC-300 operating into a TA-33 beam and says that the best time for Novices to work is around 1800- 2100 GMT near 21.150 mc.

That crimps our key for this month. Fold your dipole long enough to drop a line and photograph to let me know what's cooking at your station.

73, de Don, W6TNS

For further information, check number 27, on page 126

JAMES KNIGHTS CRYSTALS

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H-43 or H-73 low drift fundamental oscillator crystals. Will withstand high drive conditions. 20 mmf load 1800 3000 kc $\pm .01\%$ \$2.95; 3000 to 9000 kc $\pm .01\%$ 2.95; 00 to 15000 kc $\pm .01\%$ 3.95.

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Standard Transmitter Crystals. Type H-17 (H-C-6/U) 20 mmf load, .005% tolerance. Crystal on any FCC channel frequency (C.B. only) \$2.00

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Special Transmitter Crystals. Type H-17 (HC-6/U), H-3 with pins, or H3W (HC-18/U) with wire leads. Any practical load, crystal on $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ FCC channel frequency. Give holder, load, frequency, and make of equipment. Also includes control frequencies of 26.995, 27.045, 27.095, 27.145, 27.195, and 27.255 MC. $\pm .005\%$ tolerance (C.B. only) \$2.95

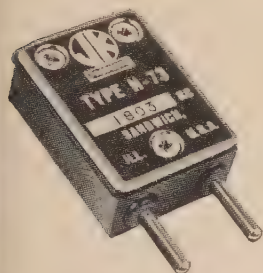
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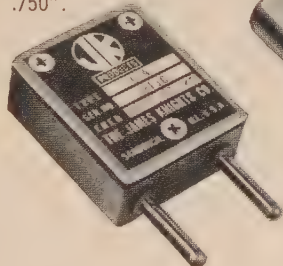
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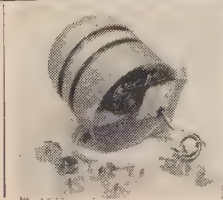
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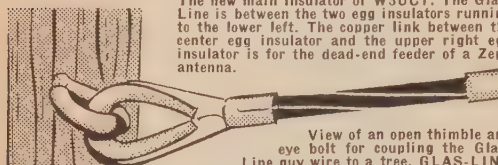
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Diode Gate Keying [from page 34]

key-up condition surpassed that obtained with the final circuit of fig. 2, but the loading effect on the oscillator due to keying was of the order of five hundred cycles per second frequency shift which was felt to be intolerable. Possibly circuit refinements could eliminate this effect, but it was assumed that capacitive coupling between the two tube sections in a single envelope was responsible for the difficulty and the idea was abandoned.

In addition to the laboratory tests performed, the circuit is currently being used to key a three hundred watt transmitter. Several contacts have been made at both distant and close ranges to determine if any chirps, clicks, or frequency drift are noticeable. A specific request has been made on each contact for a critical report. So far none have been received.

"All Around" [from page 29]

natural for double sideband generation at high level. A pair of 813's, for example, can be driven with a suitable screen step up transformer, directly from this modulator. Jack, J_3 may be used to read the final plate current by inserting a 0-200 ma meter, as shown in fig. 5.

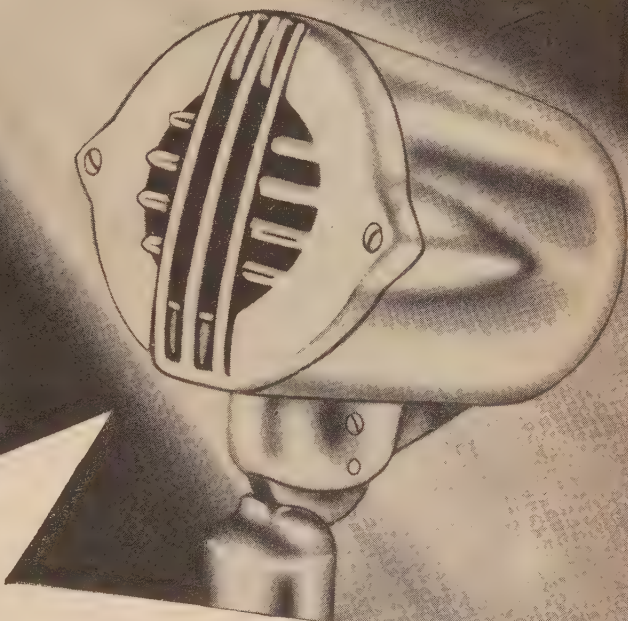
The large coax connector of the three, (SO-239) mounted on the vertical strip at the rear of the cabinet is the antenna connector. This connector was mounted at the top, so that with a right angle fitting, a small base loaded whip could be used. The two connectors under the antenna connector are jumpered together to use the internal receiver.

The built in receiver is a superregenerative type primarily for simplicity. This receiver has exceeded expectations for its usefulness as N.C.S. in local C.D. activity. The broad band characteristics of this type of receiver limits its usefulness when the band is wide open but is just the ticket for net operation. The sensitivity of this receiver is adequate for most portable work. By way of comparison, a signal that is Q5 and S1 on my Collins 75A-4 is also Q5 on this little receiver.

The annoying hiss, characteristic of a super-regenerative receiver with no signal received, can be substantially reduced by the bridge circuit between the voice coil and speaker. By proper adjustment of the volume control, the noise level raises the resistance of the pilot bulb to 5 ohms thus balancing the bridge. When a signal is received, the output level changes and the unbalanced condition of the bridge causes the signal to appear across the speaker.

The "All Around" has been in service at the fixed station for the past 6 months and I have had many enjoyable contacts with completely trouble free operation.

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March, 1961 • CQ • 115

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SEMICONDUCTORS [from page 89]

be reversed. For this transistor, connect the minus 22.5 volt lead to point "G" and plus to point "A". If the 2N217 transistor is used, point "G" should be positive with respect to point "A". The output, which is variable, is connected to point "D".

The components were mounted on a circuit board etched for the purpose. However, if you do not have the facilities for constructing boards, the same results can be obtained by drilling tiny holes in micarta or fiber board and soldering the components together on the underside. The board may be mounted in a small chassis box along with the battery, potentiometers, and the output jack. If small *Centralab* potentiometers are used, they may be mounted directly on the circuit board. To turn the unit off and on, you can either install a toggle switch in the case, or use a switch on the rear of R_5 , R_{10} , or both.

Semiconductor News

Bendix Corporation, Red Bank Division, Holmdel, New Jersey, has greatly reduced prices on their line of transistors. Introduced are new high-speed diffused alloy power (DAP) transistors for switching and sweep applications. An excellent buy for experimenters is their 2N1136, a 40 volt, 6 ampere type capable of 60 watts dissipation and priced at only \$2.70. A pair will switch 400 watts! Need anodized aluminum, teflon or fiberglass insulating heat-sink washers? Your Bendix distributor has them.

General Electric Co., Auburn, N. Y., has introduced a complete new line of high current silicon controlled rectifiers, their type C-50. The eight models, which are useful in power control and switching, motor control, inverters, frequency converters and light dimmers, have PIV ratings from 25 volts to 400 volts and are rated to 70 amperes.

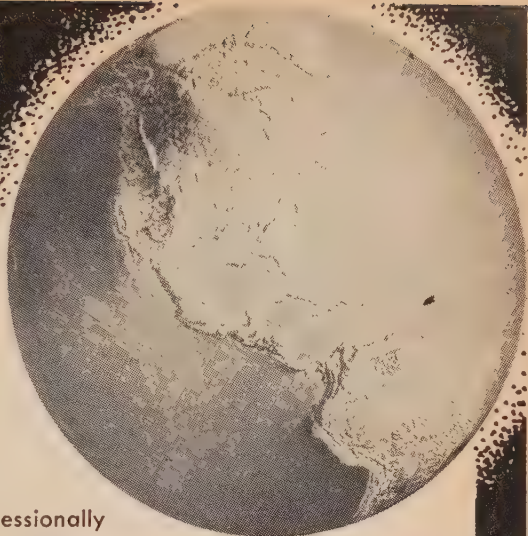
The latest issue of General Instruments *Semiconductor Bulletin* contains a discussion of diode and transistor logic circuits. If you are not on the mailing list, drop a line on your letterhead to General Instrument Corp., 65 Gouverneur St., Newark 4, N. J.

International's latest *Rectifier News* discusses silicon rectifier reliability and protection of silicon rectifier cells during dielectric testing on equipment. Subscriptions to this publication are also free, by requesting it on your letterhead. Write to International Rectifier Corporation, EE Segundo, California. Don't miss buying a copy of IR's new *Solar Cell and Photocell Handbook*. It is absolutely the last word on the subject of photovoltaic energy conversion, and contains many circuits of interest to amateurs and experimenters. The price is \$2.00 and may be obtained at the above address.

RCA, Somerville, New Jersey, has devel-

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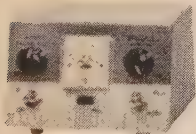
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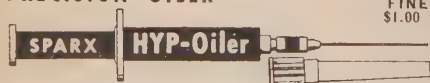
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oped a tiny varactor diode for operation between
2 and 20 kmc, but it is priced beyond the ama-
teur or experimenter. Data may be obtained
from RCA at the above address.

Rheem Semiconductors, 350 Ellis St., Moun-
tain View, Calif. are marketing a high frequency
silicon diode, type JAN 1N251 with a 0.15 μ sec
reverse switching time, 0.1 microamperes re-
verse current at -10 v, 150 milliwatts dissipa-
tion and 30 volts reverse breakdown. New
Rheem silicon mesa transistors include types
2N497, 2N498, 2N656, and 2N657. Designed
for switching applications, these mesa types are
fast and carry a 4 watt dissipation rating.

Texas Instruments, Box 312, Dallas 21,
Texas, have upgraded their 2N250 and 2N511
series and now guarantee a thermal resistance of
0.5°C/watt which permits an increased dissipa-
tion rating of 150 watts at 25°C! Bargain priced,
these transistors range from \$2.77 to \$17.50.

For another month, 73, de Don, W6TNS

SURPLUS [from page 97]

small dot with no signal applied and then ad-
justed the centering controls to locate the dot on
the center of the screen. Then the transmitter is
operating, the usual trapezoid appears and a sim-
ple triangle is indicative of 100% modulation.
The VIDEO HORIZ. AMP. and VERT. AMP. controls
have no effect since they are out of the circuit.

Mail

This month we have a request from Wallace
Haines, 630 Erie St., South Haven, Michigan
for the BC-638A Frequency meter. Francis W.
Morton, 96 Warren Avenue, Cranston 10, R.I.
wants information on the conversion of the
RBV-1 Navy panadapter. Dr. V. Victoroff, 2231
Taylor Road, Cleveland 12, Ohio wants conver-
sion information on the BF-77B Wheatstone
Bridge. Mike Kuehl, 1418 N. Stevens St., Rhine-
lander, Wisconsin is looking to anyone for a
BC-604 c.w. conversion. Melvin Saur, 87 Col-
lege St., Kent City, Michigan is in need of hand-
books on the BC-1000 and BC-1335. Herbert
Breese, 21 Walnut St., Moravia, N.Y. (Box 288)
is asking for the manuals on the R-274/FRR and
the R-383/CRD-2A. Marshall Snapp, 10656 So.
Oakley Avenue, Chicago 43, Illinois wants
handbooks on the RT-48/TPX-1

Merlin Schumacher, Lomira, Wisconsin is
seeking the BC-223-AX transmitter handbook.
G. Stonehocker, 605 South 44 St., Boulder,
Colorado wants schematics etc. for the BC-1000
and the BC-647.

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73, Ken, W2HDM

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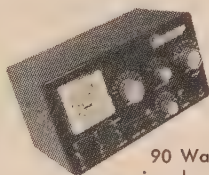
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SIDE BAND [from page 78]

replica of a 10B to a single 6AG7; total 4 watts! . . . Webb, W9VHB, out Indianapolis way, couldn't believe his ears when he got the reports on his signal radiating from a rectangular indoor dipole strung up around the ceiling of his apartment room. It was one of those things "I hear it but I don't believe it!" Honest, Webb, you were doing great. . . . Anytime you hear "chickens, turkeys, and ducks," it's not a pitch for a poultry farm but more likely Bob, W5CTD, in Houston, who uses those distinctive phonetics . . . We, and all his many friends would like to wish Cheever, W8LJ, and his family the best of health and happiness in their new home in Simsbury, Conn., where he'll soon be heard using his W1AZ call. . . . Confidential reports are being eagerly awaited on the big doings in Boca Raton at the end of January when Bill, W2KG/W4VEC held his annual reunion for a group of ham radio's most respected and popular members, among them W2KR, W4HB, W2MDQ, W4CF, K4GG, W2JIO, W2CMM, and others. . . . Say, Buck, W4TO, what's this about you decorating your shack with 75 fruit jars filled with borax and electrodes some time back? That must have been quite a sight to greet your visitors! . . . We heard that W8FYR of the Cesco Co. in Dayton was coming out with a new triband quad; from all indications, it should put out a walloping signal.

With 20 meters rather quiet for the most part in the early morning hours, we have been mobiling to work around 7.210 each morning and enjoying the company immensely. We can usually count on Van, W2LDA, and Don, K9WFG/9, who operates from a transmitter site, the commercial call of which shall be our secret. In fact, one morning we were surrounded by such learned engineers—Don, Van, and Maxey, K9UID, who is a TV engineer . . . that I was afraid to open my BOX for fear of making a technical error! . . . One of the strongest signals on 40 in the small hours of the a.m. comes out of Norfolk, Va., via K4RAS operated by Hal. . . . Made part of one trip with the able assistance of Ralph, W3VVL, who has been driving since 1906. Wonder what was being used mobile in those days? . . . The nice thing about 40 meters is that you can hear both sides of any QSO, making it practical to break in. . . . Between red traffic lights, had a few minutes to chat with Ed, K4WHD, who gets up real early because his XYL, Marilyn, KN4WHC, takes over on c.w. when she gets up. Another rig will solve that problem, Ed! . . . Even got to talk to our 'ole buddy, Irv, W5HHT, a gentleman who formerly was a fixture on 20. . . . Keep your ear open for Jack, K2DFW, who operates from Plattsburg AFB, N.Y. and likes to watch the sun coming up over the lake.

73, Irv and Dorothy

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for working elements
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the high-voltage power supply you've been waiting for! All the power you'll
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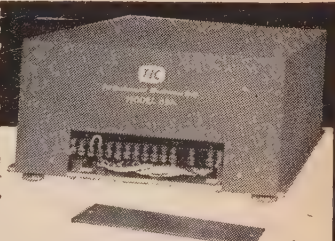
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REGULATION: 15%, no load to full load

WEIGHT: Model 65A—150 lbs. net

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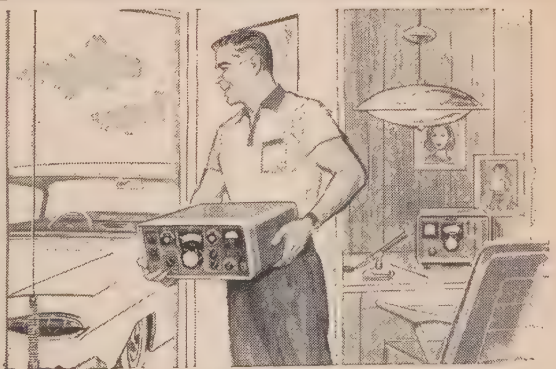
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For further information, check number 45, on page 126

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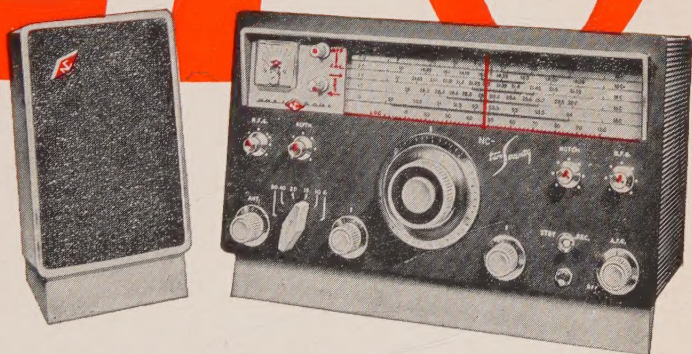
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CQ's 50-Watt 6-Meter Exciter uses RCA Tubes throughout



Front view of the 50-Mc exciter showing arrangement of tuning controls and three major elements of the unit. Controls, from upper left to lower right are: 6146 plate tuning, antenna loading, meter switch, 5763 plate tuning, 6AG7 plate tuning and crystal-v.f.o. switch. The 4 x 3 x 6" utility cabinet on the right houses the crystals, low level stages, meter and clamp tube. The left hand utility cabinet, 3 x 4 x 5" houses the 6146 r.f. amplifier circuit components. The basic chassis is only 5 x 9 x 2".

A 50 Watt, 50 Mc. Exciter A Neat Installation For the 6 Meter Enthusiast

Irving B. Mickey, W2LCB
1247 Boxer Avenue
Schenectady 9, New York

The following pages describe a 50 watt exciter for 6 meters using the popular 6146 in a well shielded, pi-network amplifier. The final is not neutralized and besides an unusual method of parasitic suppression, no consideration has been given to produce a clean, stable c.w. signal.



Designed and built by W2LCB—and described in detail in CQ for December 1960—this neat, compact 50-Mc exciter offers new possibilities for the 6-meter man who is looking for a clean, stable signal on VHF. Noteworthy is the fact that every tube in the rig is an RCA type—from the rf power amplifier to the power-supply rectifier.

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Half-Wave
Mercury-V
Rectifier